

California GARDEN

May/June 2007 Volume 98 No. 3 \$3.00

INSIDE:

How to get more from
your irises

Jacaranda, San Diego's
elegant purple tree

Take better pictures of
your plants—our guide
will show you how

**DON'T GET
TOO CLOSE**
THESE PLANTS
WILL BITE!



NOT FOR
CIRCULATION

GARDENING CLASSES

SMITH & HAWKEN and **SUNSET MAGAZINE** free seminars. May 5 and May 19, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. **Outdoor Living Rooms.** How to create an outdoor living space that is both appealing and comfortable. San Diego Store, Fashion Valley Center, 7007 Friars Road, Suite 340, San Diego. 619-298-0441 for information.

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERIES free classes. Classes begin at 9 a.m. in Pt. Loma at 3642 Enterprise St., and at 9:30 a.m. in Poway at 12755 Danielson Ct. Questions, call 619-224-8271 (Pt. Loma) or 858-513-4900 (Poway). Point Loma: May 5, Cactus & Succulents; May 12, Tropical Gardening; May 19, Grafting and Budding Techniques; May 26, Cymbidium Repotting; June 2, Fuchsia Varieties and Care; June 9, Attracting Butterflies; June 16, Bromeliads and Tillandsia "Air Plants"; June 23, Tropical Fruits; June 30, Children's Gardening. Poway: May 5, Fairy Furniture (second of two classes); May 12, Building Ponds and Waterfalls with Aquascape Designs; May 19, Summer Flowers; May 26, Herbs in the Garden with Carol Fuller; June 1, "Healthy Soils, Healthy Gardens" with special guest Giselle from Kelloggs; June 9, Xeriscaping with Carol Fuller; June 16, Water Gardening; June 23, Gardenias and Other Summer Pleasures with special guest Kathleen Parks from Monrovia; June 30, Plants That Eat Bugs 'n' Stuff.

PEARSON'S GARDENS. Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Pearson's Gardens & Herb Farm, 1150 Beverly Dr., Vista. 760-726-0717 or www.pearsonsgardens.com. May: Tomatofest & Salsa Celebration; June: Lavender Splendor.

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN. Ongoing classes, free or low-cost. Contact Elizabeth Ramos, education and events coordinator, at the Garden, 619-660-6841, or www.thegarden.com.

BALBOA PARK

SAN DIEGO ZOO

Plant Days: Third Friday of each month and **Orchid Odyssey:** Third Friday of each month and first Sunday of March, June, and December, and second Sunday in September.

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Winter Hours (Labor Day through Memorial Day): Open Tues. through Sun. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Summer Hours: Monday through Friday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Fee. 619-232-2721.

OFFSHOOT TOURS

Volunteer-guided. Various topics. Saturdays 10:00 a.m. Meet at Visitors Center. 619-235-1121. Free. Inclement weather or fewer than four cancels.

INTERPRETIVE WALKS

Volunteer-guided. History-oriented topics. Meet at Visitors Center. Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. Free.

ONGOING EVENTS

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

Walks. Poway. Sat. & Sun. 9:00 a.m. 858-679-5469.

CUYAMACA COLLEGE

Water Conservation Garden is home to 4+ acres of beautiful, award-winning low-water-use landscaping and educational displays. Docent-led tours Saturdays 10:30 a.m. and Sundays 1:30 p.m. 619-660-0614. Check website calendar for classes and special events at www.thegarden.org. Free; donations accepted. Dozens of gardening, composting, art, and family classes throughout the year.

Spring Garden Festival Saturday, May 19, 2007; 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Call for times on docent-led garden tours, weekly or monthly events, and classes for kids and adults. Tours: Every Saturday at 10 a.m. Meet at Visitor's Center. No reservations required. Bird Watching: 8:00 am first Monday of the month. Meet in the main parking lot. 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 760-436-3036 or www.qbgardens.com. General admission.

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Exquisite Asian garden. 404 Third Ave., San Diego. Tues.–Sat. 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m., Sun. 12–4 p.m. Fee. Members and children under age 12 are free.

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Canyonier Walks. Sat–Sun. Free and open to the public; no reservations required. 619-232-3821, ext. 203 or www.sdnhm.org for locations, times, and directions.

THE HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens.

Open Tuesday through Friday noon to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Closed Mondays and most holidays. \$15 adults, \$12 seniors, \$10 students (12–18), \$6 youth (5–11), under 5 and members free. Group rate (10+) \$11. 626-405-2100 or www.huntington.org.

WALKABOUT INTERNATIONAL

Local Guided Walks. Newsletter. 619-231-SHOE. Free.

LOCAL GARDENING TELEVISION PROGRAMS

Down to Earth with Tom Piergrossi, daily at 7:30 p.m. on CTN, Time Warner 22, Cox 19, or Adelphia 66.



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for 98 years*

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Volume 98, Number 3

THE MAGAZINE FOR HANDS-ON GARDENERS AND FLORAL DESIGNERS

May/June 2007

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IN HARMONY, HERBS AND SPICES, 619-223-8051, 1862 1/2 Bacon St., San Diego, CA 92107

FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden* if you'd like the magazine sold at your show.

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From the President

Our Centennial Flower Show, Award Ceremony, and Tea are now part of SDFA history. I believe A. D. Robinson, Kate Sessions, Mary Greer, and our other early leaders would have been pleased that we were back at the U.S. Grant Hotel,

enjoying a remarkable flower show staged by 44 amateur and four professional designers. There were 78 different design installations, representing the 34 specific National Garden Club designs used in flower show competitions. It was a true educational experience for our 600 guests.

Our stimulating tea program, attended by 147 guests, included a surprise appearance by "Kate Sessions," a "Century of San Diego Fashions" fashion show, with Lynne Batchelor as narrator, and an award ceremony chaired by Niki and Dee Krutop. The A.D. Robinson Award was presented to Marie Walsh for her service and dedication to SDFA, particularly in the coordination of SDFA workshops and classes. The George Marston Award was presented to Walter Andersen in appreciation for horticultural service to

the public. Velma West received the Martha Rosenberg Award in appreciation for dedication and service to SDFA, particularly in the teaching of floral design. The Barbara Jones family, who received the Kate O. Sessions Centennial Award, was honored for their inspiration and dedication to the Association. The Jones family provided a booklet of Floral history to all the guests.

Palomar District Director George Speer presented a book to the Floral library. He introduced Elizabeth Tufo, president of California Garden Clubs, Inc., who read a proclamation and presented a gift ornament to SDFA. Lucy Warren and "Kate Sessions" shared proclamations from national, state, and local government officials in honor of our anniversary.

The public response was most enthusiastic. I give my heartfelt thanks to the 75 volunteers and 48 designers who worked to make this first event of our Centennial year a huge success.

Kay Harry

Rush to Our Next Meeting (and Then Take It Slow)

Slow Gardening with Felder Rushing June 19, 2007

Felder Rushing returns to San Diego with an entirely new presentation. His unorthodox approach to life and gardening enlightens and broadens horizons with humor, usable ideas, and practical knowledge. And he makes you feel good about what you love—gardening.

Just what is Slow Gardening? It's a no-brainer, comparing modern gardens to how we eat. In just a couple or three generations, we've gone from eating mostly home-cooked food and gardening with mostly local resources to routine fast food and outsourced "mow-and-blow" landscapes.

Waistlines have been supersized while garden sizes have withered. Why bother to grow when you can just run to the store and get prepackaged items? Instead of sowing saved seed, we buy uniform hybrids by the six-pack. Sure, we've shed a lot of the menial work of putting both food on the table and flowers in the garden, but at what cost to the connections with the Earth that our ancestors took for granted?

Slow Gardening to the rescue! Similar to Slow Food, an international movement of convivial connoisseurs who savor producing, preparing, and consuming traditional in-season dishes, a slow-gardening approach can help us enjoy our gardens year in and year out.

Slow Gardening isn't lazy or passive—it actually involves doing more stuff, but carefully selected to be productive without senseless, repetitive chores. By focusing on seasonal rhythms and local conditions, it helps the gardener get more from the garden while better appreciating how

time and energy—and leisure time—are spent.

It simply means taking it easy. Think "long haul" and relax. Life has lots of pressures—why include them in the garden?

Get 'er done. You don't have to be an expert to garden, or even to work very hard. Clichés can help: No need to go whole hog right off the bat. Don't have to eat the whole enchilada. Main thing is, slow doesn't necessarily mean lazy.

Do better. As Steve Bender, senior garden editor for *Southern Living* magazine, says, "Maybe you can't change the whole world. But by *slightly modifying* the way you garden, you can change your own backyard. And that's a start."

San Diego Floral Association's Quarterly Meeting is Tuesday, June 19, 2007, at 7 p.m. in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. The meeting is free to members who make reservations, \$5 for nonmembers. Seating is limited, so call today! Prior to the meeting, an optional catered dinner is available at a cost for meeting and speaker of \$12 for members; \$20 for nonmembers by paid reservation. Reservations should be made at the Association office, 619-232-5762, prior to Monday, June 17.



SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

May 2007

CRAFT AND FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOPS

□ May 1 and 8, 2007

This is a fun way to make something beautiful. Gourds and all materials provided. Teacher: M. J. Wydro.

Cost: \$50 for both sessions plus a small materials fee paid to teacher.

□ May 15, 2007

Decoupage Gourd Decorating

Learn to decorate gourds with decoupage. Teacher:

Dorothy Elwell.

Cost: \$20.

□ May 22, 2007

Bamboo and Plastic Tubing Construction

Use bamboo and plastic tubing to make your choice of constructions. All materials provided. Teacher:

Kathy Walsh.

Cost: \$20.

All classes 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Room 104, Casa del Prado.

Coffee and sweets provided; bring your own lunch. Call Marie Walsh for information at 619-298-5182. To register and pay, contact SDFa at 619-232-5762. Classes limited to 10 persons and must be prepaid.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

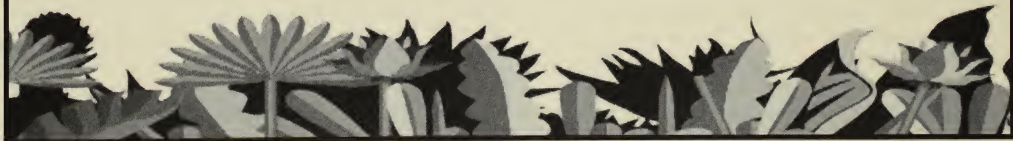
It's easy to register! Just fill out this form (or a copy of it) and mail it to San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622. Payment for classes must be included.

SDFa Centennial Celebration "Historic Garden Tour" Saturday, June 2, 2007 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Tour 6 historic gardens of San Diego. Included in the tour will be "Rosecroft," which is a historic Italian Renaissance Residence. Built in 1912 by Alfred D. Robinson, the property has now been placed on the national historic register.

Tickets: \$15 in advance; \$20 on day of the tour

Advance tickets may be purchased at Walter Andersen Nursery, 3642 Enterprise St., Point Loma, 619-224-8271 or 12755 Danielson Ct., Poway, 858-513-4900; Cedros Gardens, 330 S. Cedros St., Solana Beach; Weidner's Nursery, 695 Normandy Rd., Encinitas, 760-436-2194; Mission Hills Nursery, 1525 Ft. Stockton St, San Diego, 619-295-2808; Moose Creek, 2442 Alpine Blvd., Alpine, 619-445-6020; San Diego Floral Association Office, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, 619-232-5762. Day of the Tour tickets may be purchased at Rosecroft, 530 Silvergate Ave, San Diego 92106, and Mission Hills Nursery.



In Honor of Virginia Maples Innis

An artist whose medium is flowers—this apt description of Virginia Maples Innis came from her daughter Cynthia (also an artist) and was proudly relayed to me by Virginia herself. Indeed, as members of the Flower Arrangers Guild of San Diego Floral Association can readily attest, few knew the intricacies and principles of floral design as well as Virginia. She was a member and past president of San Diego Floral Association (1969–71), an award-winning floral designer, and a retired Flower Show Judge of the National Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. She was a regular designer of bold and stylistic floral designs for the annual floral extravaganza, “Art Alive,” the major fundraiser for the San Diego Museum of Art. A member of more than a half-dozen garden clubs and plant societies, including the Point Loma Garden Club, Mrs. Innis took an active interest in horticultural activities in the San Diego area. She was also a frequent contributor to the pages of *California Garden* magazine, with articles on the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park and the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College in El Cajon during the past year.

Sadly, Virginia Maples Innis, 80, died February 12, 2007, in a car accident. She is survived by her husband of 45 years, architect Donald A. Innis, daughters Christina and Cynthia Innis, sons James Pasto, John Pasto, and Donald Innis, Jr.; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Mrs. Innis was born in Mercer, Tennessee, and worked as a high-school teacher for several California school districts. She and her husband were avid sailing enthusiasts and members of the San Diego Yacht Club. She will be sorely missed.—Karin Kratz

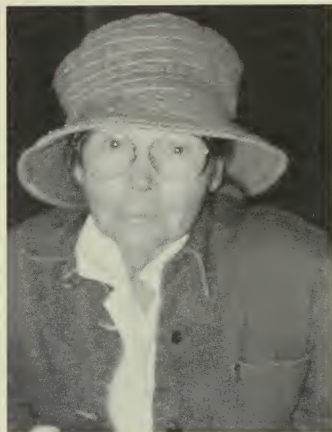


Photo by Cynthia Innis

Gardeners, Beware: Summer Plant Sale

If you can't pass up a bargain on that special plant you didn't plan to buy until you saw it, then you should stay away from the Master Gardeners' Summer Plant Sale. I know you may want to drop by for a few minutes just to look, but if you do, you will not be able to resist the temptation to take a few plants home with you. Besides, we both know your landscape is full of plants and you don't have space for any more. So there is no need for you to go to this annual garage sale for gardeners on Saturday, June 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in room 101, Casa del Prado in Balboa Park.

For this day, Master Gardeners will turn Room 101 and the adjacent patio into a mini nursery. They sponsor the annual sale to raise funds for their public education activities. A large selection of favorite plants grown by master gardeners and some donated by local nurseries will be sold to eager gardeners at bargain prices. This year's sale will have lots of flowering plants, including orchids, lilies, iris, and geraniums. It will also include a large number of ornamental trees and some unusual plants like staghorn ferns. There will be a lot of water-wise plants, including succulents and natives. Gardeners looking for edibles will find tomatoes, herbs, and fruit trees.

For more information, visit www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.—Vincent Lazaneo

Flower Arranging Tips

Provided by members of the Flower Arrangers' Guild San Diego Floral Association

A loose, coiled-up ball of plain chicken wire makes a good holder inside the vase for heavy-stemmed flowers if you do not have a kenzan.

Old eyeglass cases are handy for holding pruning shears in pockets of your apron or pants after cutting floral material. This prevents torn pockets from the sharp points. The eyeglass case should be the kind made of padded material with one open end.

A long piece of wire inserted into the middle and down the stem of flowers such as gerbera daisies and sunflowers keeps the flower heads from drooping over. Alternatively, a wooden toothpick or small wood skewer may be inserted into the center of the flower and then cut flush so that the pick is not obtrusive.

Send in your favorite tips for arranging flowers to editor@sdfloral.org.

Come for the Bromeliads, Stay for the Show

The Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park will present its annual plant show and sale on Saturday, May 26, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 27, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park, San Diego, California. Members of the study group will enter their most exotic and spectacular plants for judging, and others will be exhibited only to illustrate some of the beautiful species and hybrids. After viewing the plants on display, you will want to select your plants from the numerous varieties for sale, including a very exclusive selection of Tillandsias (air plants). Our members will be happy to help you and answer your questions. Now is the perfect time to start your bromeliad garden or increase your collection. They are very hardy, easy to grow, will thrive in a myriad of environments, and do exceptionally well in Southern California. These colorful plants with their fascinating brilliant blooms that last for weeks to several months can enhance your patio or landscape or will help to beautify your indoor home décor.

Plants for sale are donated both by our members and the Kent's Bromeliad Wholesale Nursery in Vista, California. Proceeds from the sale will be used for our project at the San Diego Zoo, which is the maintenance of the "Leonard Kent Bromeliad Garden."

The Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park, in association with the Zoo's horticulture department, has maintained this beautiful garden on a regular basis since 1984. Our chairman and membership volunteers keep it groomed and plant new blooming plants as needed, making a total of about 1,500 plants on exhibit at all times. This assures the best possible display for the Zoo visitors to enjoy. The Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park is pleased to be a participant in this botanical collection.

At each meeting, an educational program is presented and there is always time for questions and answers. A plant raffle is held for everyone to have the opportunity to start or add to your collection. At our extensive library, members can borrow

some books. Refreshments are provided, which is a good time to get acquainted with our fellow members.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Casa del Prado, Room 104 in Balboa Park, San Diego. The room is open at 6:30 p.m., and the bromeliad library is open from 6:45 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Escort service to your automobile after the meeting is available on request. Our friendly group welcomes guests, visitors, and new members.—Mary Siemers



MICRO HINTS FOR APARTMENT AND CONDO GARDENS

Since the '80s, the San Diego population living in apartments and condos has increased dramatically. Just take a look at what has happened to downtown and Little Italy. Having gardens takes on a very different dimension

and their environment is of different dimensions than those of single home dwellers.

First, almost all plants grow in containers placed against a rail or a wall. The amount of sunlight depends on the facing directions. Temperatures are controlled by the air and the reflections from surroundings.

Things to consider when planning a balcony garden:

- Direction of prevailing wind.
- Direction that the plants will face.
- Height above ground.
- Surrounding structures.
- Amount of sunlight through the seasons.
- Preference and types of plants.
- Containers and supporting structures.
- Ease of watering.
- Getting plants and containers to fit the size available.
- Neighborly relations.

Plan ahead. Take a close look at others who have established gardens to see what environment is successful. The change of seasons and the resulting effects on plants have more and greater variations in this type of setting. Be careful of watering. Take note of where the excess water will go.

When choosing plants, choose those that have been bred with micro-gardens in mind. Herbs and an occasional vegetable will do well. Ferns and bonsais fit in well also. Since the plants grow in containers, it is easy to change them according to the season.—Bob Horwitz



Photo of *Neoregelia mryendorffii* by Mary Siemers

Now is the time

AFRICAN VIOLETS

BARBARA CONRAD

- » To realize that some violets bloom more frequently than others. This is the time of year when most violets go into bloom.
- » To jolt stubborn violets into bloom; use a "superbloom" fertilizer from a nursery. However, this may only be used several months at a time.
- » To check plants with a magnifying glass under a lamp for tiny insects.
- » To clean flower pots with disinfectant when you transplant or change soil.
- » To watch for "tight" centers, indicating too much fertilizer or insects.
- » To remove all blossoms when you feel more need for nutrients to concentrate growth on foliage. This will help maintain a healthy base for producing blooms later.

BEGONIAS

DORIS SMITH, ALFRED D. ROBINSON BEGONIA SOCIETY

- » To repot when needed to one size larger pot, in light porous soil.
- » To water as needed and to wash off insects with water.
- » To check tuberous, repot, add fresh soil, and stake as needed.
- » For bushier canes, pinch back plants once or twice, and fertilize for blooms.

BONSAI

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.

- » To develop a watering schedule, but avoid over-watering, especially the pines.
- » To prune all trees to promote growth and shape. Tip prune junipers and pines using finger pruning instead of cutting tools that cause brown tips.
- » To spray for insects as needed, using either a systemic or mild surface insecticide.
- » To shape deciduous trees. Defoliate the deciduous trees in June. They may be transplanted afterwards.
- » To control any mildew that may appear; use sulfur or a spray.
- » To fertilize trees with an organic fertilizer. Do not overfeed the pines.
- » To complete the repotting of all trees that have not been reported, except for the flowering trees that have not completed their blooming cycle.
- » To place trees to receive optimal sun, but do not place in full sun after 11:00 a.m.
- » To prevent sun-burning.
- » To rotate trees often to maintain proper shape.

BROMELIAD

MARY SIEMERS, BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK

- » To fertilize by spraying with a water-soluble fertilizer, such as Miracle-Gro or any other that is high in acid, using half the recommended strength on the label. In addition, you may spread Osmocote fertilizer formula 14-14-14 over the soil, using 1 tsp. per 6" pot. Osmocote will last for 3-4 months. Bromeliads do not like fish emulsion.
- » To start watering a little more often as the weather is warming up, making sure not to over-water the potting media as bromeliads do not like to have soggy roots.
- » To protect your plants from the hot summer sun. Suggested material is shade cloth, corrugated fiberglass, or any material that will allow plenty of sunlight.
- » To start making new plants by cutting offsets when they are 1/3 to 1/2 the size of the mother plant. Pot them in a porous medium.
- » For further information, see the Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park website, <http://tinyurl.com/69i8>

CACTI AND SUCCULENTS

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

- » To water plants as needed. When pots get noticeably light in weight, water them.
- » To fertilize for growth and flowering. Allow the winter growers to go dormant and rest before feeding.
- » To protect the plants from brilliant sun. Shade cloth can keep plants from being bleached out on very hot days.
- » To check any additions to your collection for insect pests. Keep them away from the rest of the plants. If pests or disease are noticed, treat at once.
- » To repot those plants needing it; use well-draining mix. A good rule of thumb is to allow an inch between plant and pot.
- » To repot seedlings when they have doubled or tripled in size. If they have been in the same mix for over six months, it is a good idea to repot.
- » To check entire collection for any pests or disease and treat at once to avoid infestation.

CAMELLIAS

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

- » To continue a feeding program following the bloom cycle, feeding cottonseed meal at the rate of 1 tablespoon per gallon-sized plant or up to 2 cups per large in-ground plant. Feed every 4-6 weeks through mid-August.
- » To mulch plants, keeping mulch 2 or so inches away from plant trunk. Mulching helps keep the shallow roots cool and moist.

- » To prune out any unwanted new growth. Shape as desired and thin out center of plants.
- » To spray for insects as they appear. Hose off aphids. Check with your local nursery for organic ways to treat loopers and mites.
- » To establish and maintain a uniform watering schedule. Camellias are not water-hungry, but they should never be allowed to go dry. Be sure to water well the day before feeding.

DAHLIAS

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY

- » To feed with low-nitrogen fertilizer (4-10-10), either dry or liquid.
- » To spray weekly to control insects. Guard against leaf miners, thrips, and aphids. Try systemic; if spraying, use a weak solution on new foliage.
- » To water when top of soil is dry; when buds are forming, soak deeply and often.
- » To plant new varieties and give regular care for growing.
- » To be sure to draw the soil up around the plants as they grow.
- » To pinch out centers of plants when two or three sets of leaves have developed.

EPIPHYLLUMS

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

- » To prune plants to shape—take cuttings after flowering.
- » To put out snail bait and watch for other pests. Try Sluggo, the organic snail bait now available at most garden centers and nurseries.
- » To remove wilted flowers by cutting about ¾-inch out from leaf unless you desire seed to form.
- » To take care in watering. Do not allow to dry out; keep soil damp, but not wet.
- » To give plants a balanced feeding after blooming season.
- » To stake long, spindly growth.
- » To protect foliage from the hot summer sun. Maintain plants in filtered sunlight.

FERNS

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY

- » To finish removing old dead fronds.
- » To water frequently as most ferns are starting full growth now. Try to keep humidity up.
- » To fertilize with half-strength high-nitrogen liquid or slow-release pellets.
- » To spray for aphids, thrips, and scale. Keep looking for snails and slugs. Spread bait as needed.
- » To watch for Giant White Flies. Best treated by wiping off egg spirals.
- » To collect and sow spores. Some new ones may be available soon.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

VINCENT LAZANEO, HORTICULTURE ADVISOR, UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

- » To check citrus and other hosts of diapaepes root weevil for semi-circular notches along the edges of new leaves. Visit www.sdcawm.org for photos and quarantine information. Call 1-800-491-1899 to report possible infestation.
- » To irrigate thoroughly as needed to maintain adequate soil moisture. Apply water around mature trees in a broad band beginning one-third of the distance from the trunk to the tree's drip line and extending out beyond the drip line a few feet. Apply enough water to wet the soil at least 2 feet deep (about 3 inches of water on a loam soil).
- » To remove grass and weeds from soil under the tree's canopy.
- » To apply a layer of organic mulch on the soil under trees to conserve moisture. Keep mulch at least one foot away from trunk to protect trees from crown rot.
- » To complete thinning apples, pears, and stone fruit after "June drop."
- » To remove any suckers growing from rootstock (below the graft union).
- » To wash trees periodically with a forceful spray of water to remove dust, honeydew, and pests like aphids, whiteflies, and spider mites.
- » To spray walnuts with carbaryl ("Sevin") when nuts are about the size of a nickel and again three weeks later to control codling moth larvae (wormy nuts).
- » To control ants, which protect aphids and other sap-feeding insects; visit www.ipm.ucdavis.edu for Pest Notes on Ants and other garden problems.

HERBS

JOHN NOBLE

- » To clean up your garden after spring growth.
- » To pull out winter annuals such as borage and calendula.
- » To prune back the perennial herbs Mexican marigold and rosemary.
- » To plant basil, cayenne, parsley, valerian, feverfew, and chamomile.
- » To harvest Yerba mansa, mint, elderberry flowers, and lavender blossoms.
- » To steam fresh nettle leaf.
- » To make a healthy salad with dandelion greens, French sorrel, dill and basil.

Now is the time

IRISES

SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTY IRIS SOCIETY

- » To allow cut surfaces of the rhizomes to dry and be exposed to sunlight before planting or give a light dusting of soil sulfur. They may be placed in a vitamin B solution for a while before planting.
- » To check to see if all the iris labels match their name (check bloom description).
- » To cut the bloom stalk near the ground when done blooming.
- » To feed heavily (tblsp. per rhizome) with 6-20-20 or similar mix when bloom season is over.
- » To not neglect to water enough to keep them growing.
- » To check for aphids near the rhizomes, also for leaf rust.
- » To have beds prepared for planting and transplanting. Work humus, soil sulfur, and some decomposed manure into the soil before planting.
- » To check for aphids near the rhizomes, also for leaf rust.
- » To feed spurias with a low-nitrogen fertilizer.
- » To keep watering all the irises that are still blooming.
- » To feed Siberians after blooming with a balanced food, but wait until June to dig and transplant.
- » To feed Japanese irises with camellia food; add to water in which they are growing.

NATIVE PLANTS

JOHN NOBLE

- » To reduce watering. Most established native plants could go three to four weeks between watering. Riparian natives can be watered once or twice a week. At least once a month, get out the hose and give your shrubs and trees a quick shower to say hello and wash off the dust.
- » To harvest the seeds of the wildflowers.
- » To pull out or weed whack the wildflowers after they dry up.
- » To mulch with shredded bark or gravel any bare earth around plants.
- » To keep planting at a minimum until next fall.

ORCHIDS

CHRISTOPHER CROOM

- » To enjoy reed-stemmed Epidendrums, which should have been in flower for the last couple months and will remain so for a few more months.
- » To construct shadecloth barriers if you have too many plants to protect, or bring plants under the eaves of your house to protect from sun damage.
- » To finish any reporting that you've been procrastinating about (be

sure to soak the media first, this late in the season).

- » To water all plants more as they increase their rate of growth.
- » To fertilize more as your plants return to active growth.
- » To start watering mounted plants extra to compensate for their lack of moisture retention.
- » To enjoy your Phalaenopsis, as many of the hybrids will be finishing their blooms (while many of the species will be just starting) and to look for spikes on Vandas.
- » To watch for sun damage as temperatures get increasingly hotter.
- » To think about taking indoor plants outdoors for the summer, so they can benefit from the moving air and temperature changes (be careful of giving them too much light when you do this).
- » To look for insect infestations and spray plants to prevent viruses from being spread by insects.
- » To enjoy the last of the Dendrobium blooms and the first of the Sobralia blooms, as well as Cattleya season, which will be in full swing. Many Encyclias bloom this time of year, too.
- » To scrupulously water your terrestrial orchids, which will tell you how much water they need by how fast they grow.

PELARGONIUMS

JIM ZEMICK

- » To let your plants perform. Avoid unnecessary pruning or cutting.
- » To continue removing dead, older, and/or damaged leaves to prevent the formation of molds or fungus. Be especially watchful for geranium rust and institute a program of prevention including removal of affected leaves. Treatment with a non-sulfur-based rust inhibitor/eradicator such as Immunox should prevent outbreaks. Sulfur-based rust products are ineffective on geranium rust.
- » To continue a steady water cycle. Many geraniums will drop their lower leaves and quit blooming if they get too dry. To maintain good foliage and bloom symmetry, keep the soil moist. Avoid getting the foliage wet.
- » To continue feeding with a good commercial fertilizer. Use at one-third to one-half of the label's recommended strength. Apply on two-week intervals.
- » To deadhead as soon as blooms pass their peak. This will encourage new blooms and keep plants looking fresh all season.
- » To continue a pest-prevention program. This is the time of year to pay special attention to your proactive program to guard against whitefly, budworm, and aphids. Keep your yard free of weeds as this is where many pests that infest your plants get their start. Modern insecticides work instantly and are effective for two weeks or longer. Use a product that contains both an insecticide and fungicide. Follow manufacturers' recommendations and keep preventative control on a steady, continuous schedule.

- » To protect plants from severe sun damage. Keep pots out of full sun. Protecting larger pots by surrounding them with pots of shorter growing annuals may help keep them from damage.
- » To continue to rotate plants to keep them well-shaped and covered with blooms.

PLUMERIAS

FRANK ZOTTER

- » To move potted plants from protected winter areas to warm, full sun.
- » To start watering and fertilizing with a low-nitrogen fertilizer like 3-10-10.
- » To take cuttings and prune; prune only to shape the plant.
- » To repot plants and “top up” larger plants; this is to remove some of the soil from the top and replace it with a fresh mix of 1/2 cactus mix, 1/4 #3 perlite, and 1/4 wormgold plus. Keep soil at level as before.
- » To expect first new blooms from last season’s remaining inflorescence.

ROSES

AL HECK, SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY

- » To enjoy the peak blooming season and evaluate your roses.
- » To “dead head” the stems and canes when blooms are spent. Cut back to where you want the replacement growth to start, remembering that new canes can never be a greater diameter than the diameter of the cane from which they sprout.
- » To control the Botrytis fungus, also known as “blossom rot,” showing up as brown dead spots on the blooms. Control is important because Botrytis can develop into Botrytis Canker, also known as “cane death” or “die back,” to the point where the entire plant can die. Some fungicides labeled for Botrytis control are Compass, Cleary’s, and Mancozeb.
- » To protect new growth emanating from the bud union or the large canes at the base of the rose. These “basals” will ultimately replace the major older canes that you may want to prune away in December/January. Without basals, you’re stuck with the existing canes, which will gradually become less productive.
- » To water your roses well as the seasonal heat increases. At this time of year, roses need about one inch of water twice per week, no matter how it is applied. Roses in pots need more because there is less soil to hold the water.
- » To control powdery mildew by either washing the bushes with water spray daily before 10 a.m. or spray with a powdery mildew fungicide in accordance with instructions on the label. You can also restrict your roses to only those varieties that resist powdery mildew.
- » To feed your roses and your soil microbes well. A balanced food

regimen would include about half inorganic fertilizers and half organic fertilizers. Organic fertilizers and mulch feed the soil microbes, who in turn help feed the roses. Inorganic fertilizers bypass soil microbes but provide micronutrients that roses need.

VEGETABLES

VINCENT LAZANEO, HORTICULTURE ADVISOR, UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

- » To plant warm-season crops, requiring warm weather and soil for rapid growth: beans, corn, cucurbits (cucumbers, gourds, luffas, melons, squash), peanuts, peppers, sunflowers, tomatoes, and tender herbs.
- » To plant pumpkins in late June for Halloween.
- » To stop watering onions and garlic grown for bulbs when leaves begin to turn yellow. Dig bulbs when tops have fallen over and place in a shady, well-ventilated area to cure.
- » To apply nitrogen fertilizer to warm-season crops to promote growth. Fertilize when corn is 6 inches tall and 24 inches tall; when cucurbits begin to produce runners; when eggplant, peppers, and tomatoes begin to bloom (and again a month later); and beans, for a month after planting or when runners start to climb.
- » To feed with high nitrogen fertilizer—for every 10 feet of row, apply 1/3 to 1/2 cup of ammonium sulfate or 1/4 cup of ammonium nitrate alongside the row a few inches from the plants and then irrigate thoroughly.
- » To check plants for pests. Dust tomatoes lightly with sulfur when plants are one-foot tall to control russet mites and powdery mildew. Wrap paper collars around the stems of tomato transplants when planted to protect from cutworms.

VEGETABLES, ANNUALS

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PUBLICATIONS

- » To put in transplants of eggplant, peppers, sweet potato, tomato, African daisy, celosia, centaurea, coreopsis, marigold, nicotiana, petunia, salpiglossis, salvia, scabiosa, sunflower, and tithonia.
- » To put in seeds of beans, corn, cucumbers, endive, leaf lettuce, melons, okra, green onions, parsley, parsnips, peppers, radish, squash (winter and summer), turnips, ageratum, amaranthus, balsam, coleus, cosmos, dahlias, four o’clocks, mignottette, morning glories, nasturtiums, porulaca, strawflowers, sweet alyssum, Virginia stock, and zinnias.
- » To plant a wonderful edible garden to enjoy all summer.

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The Colors of Roses

Orange, Peach, and Apricot

ALEXANDER

A quite popular rose in Europe and the UK; hard to find here (try Vintage Gardens in Sebastopol, CA). A deep, strong, clear-but-not-screamingly-loud orange-red rose, with attractive, disease resistant foliage, not particularly large, but very productive. Far, far better in every way, including disease resistance, than one of its parents, Tropicana, which it (barely) resembles. Bloom color is deeper if given afternoon shade and a dose of chelated iron twice a year (true of all nonpastel roses).

AUTUMN SUNSET (CL)

A climber, descended from *Westerland* (see below), with all the faults and virtues that implies. Somewhat less vigorous than *Westerland*; slow to get established (mine took three years), but with beautiful, large, disease-resistant, apple green foliage and blooms that open a butternut squash orange, gradually aging to a pale butter yellow in time. Not long-lasting, but floriferousness makes up for that. Thorns are truly like miniature daggers. Unless shredded arms are your thing, wear goatskin gauntlets.

BELLE ÉPOQUE

This is the 1994 HT by Fryer, not the 1962 rose by the same name. It's a lovely rose of a tawny apricot-gold with a haunting, deep bronzy-peach reverse, similar to *Singin'* in the Rain in color, but clearer, more saturated, less pastel. Not a good rose for cutting, despite its HT class; it blows in just a few days. Still, it's a subtle, lovely rose in the garden. Disease-free, on the small side.

BRANDY

A wonderful, strong-growing classic, with huge blooms of a deep apricot that have only one fault: They could use an additional row of petals. A great cut flower if cut in fairly tight bud. A vigorous (5 feet on average) bush, tall rather than wide, fairly thorny, but not a "killer." New foliage is reddish.

GINGERSNAP

I once likened the color of Gingersnap in the garden to having Miss Marple and the ladies of St. Mary Meade invite Bette Davis to tea! This is not an unassuming rose and, like *Oranges & Lemons*, requires careful placement, colorwise, but it has a lot of virtues: It is an absolute bloom machine with extremely long-lasting (almost a week), wavy-edged flowers of a deep Chinese red-orange that develop a nuanced shading, darker at the edges, paler near the petal bases as the blooms age. If you like deep reddish orange, this is a

rose for you. Some Powdery Mildew in spring, but it's not a serious drawback.

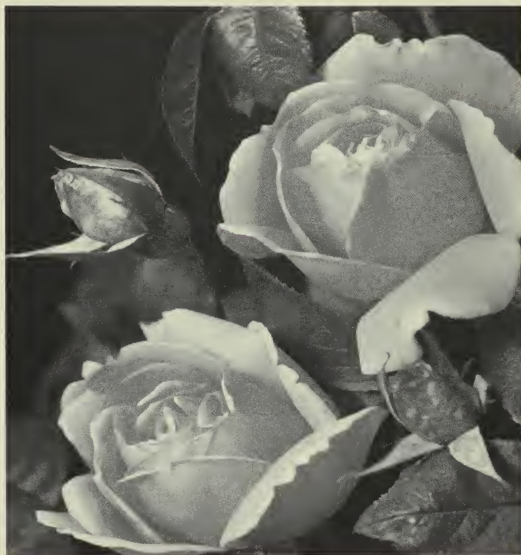
GYPSY DANCER

I went through a phase when I loved the "handpainted" roses developed by Colin Dixon, McGredy, et. al.—and still do—trying to collect all of them. This *Floribunda* has turned out to be one of my less successful choices. It is more of a spreading shrub with very bright green, shiny, healthy foliage, and it needs a decent amount of space. Like certain beautiful people, the smallish, clustered blooms, lovely in youth, age badly. They're an exquisite, deep golden nasturtium-orange with deeper reddish orange veining when they first open, but age

over the course of two days to a rather vile "St. Joseph's aspirin" peachy-pink. If this disturbs you less than it does me, you'll like this healthy, vigorous, disease-free plant. Thorns are vicious, but not closely spaced.

JUST JOEY

The disproportionately large, deep peach-colored blooms with slightly frilled edges on this classic HT rose are so heart-stoppingly beautiful they make one overlook its faults. The bush is smallish, with deep pine green foliage, and needs a lot of TLC—especially above average fertilizing, and a prime location. Blooms more in spring and autumn, with a rest period in summer. Not the disease-magnet that one of its parents, *Fragrant Cloud*, is but spraying does help considerably. "With all your faults, I love you still . . ."



LIVIN' EASY

If ever a rose was well-named, this is it. Absolutely pest- and disease-free, it's constantly in bloom. The fresh, apple-green foliage is a perfect contrast to the nectarine red, rather "camellia-like" cupped blossoms, with slightly paler inner petals. Even the most perfect rose has a few faults, however: Blooms last about three days on the bush but make fairly poor cut flowers; the thorns on this rose are beyond vicious, a trait it has passed on to its progeny, Hot Cocoa; if given room, this rose will spread considerably—either cut it back to fit its location each year or place it where it won't crowd its neighbors.

MARILYN MONROE

Like its late film star namesake, the blossoms on this rose are hauntingly lovely: a deep cantaloupe melon/peach with intriguing greenish petal bases in cool weather and great substance. That's the good news. Everything else is strictly downhill. The bush is awkward and upright with the thorniest canes I've encountered on an HT—even more so than Camara. It's unbelievably rust-prone. Unless you spray regularly—and I mean every two weeks without fail—you'll have an endless problem. Powdery Mildew is also a problem in spring. The exquisite blooms are produced lavishly in spring, but only sporadically the rest of the year. You'll have to decide for yourself if it's worth the trouble. It wasn't for me. I finally gave up the ghost on this one after three years.

MEDALLION

This fairly old HT (1973 AARS winner) is still a great rose. Extremely tall and vigorous (it could almost be trained as a pillar/climber—as I indeed have done with it), the peach ice cream to apricot/amber-colored blooms, produced throughout the season, are equally huge—up to 7 inches, seldom less than 5. Great for cut flowers. The downside? Like most HTs produced prior to the 1990s, the foliage is somewhat, though not excessively, subject to a variety of diseases. Unlike Marilyn Monroe, however, the frequent bloom and general vigor of this rose (foliage diseases don't affect bloom production) make Medallion definitely worth it. Heat and summer



sun tend to make the blooms peachier; cool springs and/or afternoon shade tend to make them a bit more apricot/amber. Site accordingly.

ORANGES & LEMONS

A rose that definitely has its uses but needs very careful placement and care. The 3-inch, striped burnt orange and lemon yellow blooms are indeed lovely when they first open but age in a few days to a muddled pastel mix. This is an extremely tall rose (easily 6 or 7 feet—or more), and I've trained it against a trellis to hide a view of my bathroom window. However, unless you want a lot of foliage with a pompom of blooms

nodding at the top of the tall canes, you've got to prune it back frequently and fairly ruthlessly. With most roses in this part of the country, I never prune more than 1/3 of each cane's length, but O&L is so tall and gangly that it requires cutting back to about 3 feet in winter, and periodic pruning throughout the growing season, between bloom cycles. Bloom is heaviest in late spring and again in autumn. Heat blurs the bloom color. Extremely thorny, with nasty little briar-like thorns over every square inch of stem, rather than "hypodermic needles." Feed with a high-phosphorous, low-nitrogen fertilizer (10-30-10) most of the season to encourage bloom and avoid promoting excessive foliar growth. New foliage is a deep purplish red—not a complementary color to its blossoms.

REDGOLD

A fairly large (about 4–4 ½ feet), extremely prolific Floribunda whose large blooms are a deep reddish orange at the petal edges, fading to a light orange-gold near the bases. As the blooms age, the reddish color tends to meld with the gold in the manner of Gemini, though somewhat less attractively. An excellent cut flower and an absolute bloom machine—my plant almost always has at least two or three blooms going throughout the season. Moderately disease-free but attractive to chewing insects; foliage gets a bit ratty by mid-autumn, but the blooms just keep on coming.

**Indicates intense fragrance.*

REMEMBER ME

I personally love this rose, so I tend to overlook its faults, but I still think it deserves a place in a rose garden. The blooms are moderate in size and remind me of a tortoiseshell cat: a deep but gentle burnt orange mottled with a rosy nectarine. They're quite unique. It blooms throughout the season, but not lavishly; about a dozen blooms or so in spring and about the same amount over the remainder of the season. In cool weather, it's a good—but not great—cut flower, but in mid-summer, the blooms blow quickly. The smallish bush (about 3 feet) has lovely, disproportionately small, healthy jade-green foliage. Prune carefully and selectively and fertilize well. In a rose bed, plant to the front to feature the unique blooms. A similarly colored but less satisfactory rose is Liverpool Remembers.

ROYAL SUNSET (CL)*

If I had to choose my favorite climber of all, it would be Royal Sunset. It has everything: moderate, but not excessively vigorous, growth; flexible canes; an immense amount of bloom—particularly in spring, but also throughout the season; extremely healthy, deep green, glossy foliage; relatively few thorns. The blooms are large, a deep but mellow apricot-orange upon opening, gradually fading to a nuanced peach. This is the most intensely fragrant climber I've come across: The fruity scent will permeate your garden or house. The one fault is that blooms tend to last no more than two or three days, but

they are so numerous as to make this a mere quibble. If you like the color, and you have room for only one climber, this is it!

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

A uniquely colored, very large (easily 4–5 feet) Floribunda. The incessantly produced clusters of 3-inch blooms are a dusky tan-peach color with a bronzy-cinnamon reverse. In mid-summer, the heat and sun tend to bring out unattractive pinkish tones—try to site it where it will get afternoon shade. The shiny, medium green foliage is somewhat prone to rust, but a dormant spraying is usually sufficient control.

WESTERLAND (CL)

If you need coverage and have the space, Westerland is worth planting. It produces a lot of season-long clusters of reddish orange, not many-petaled blooms that fade to a paler orange-rose over several days. Foliage is a deep pine green. More vigorous than its offspring, Autumn Sunset, it is decidedly thornier and has the additional problem of being fairly brittle even when growth is young. This means that it's not unusual for a cane or lateral to break off as it's being trained. Not for a tiny "civilized" garden, but very worthwhile if you have the space.

Fredrik Liljeblad is a professional writer and editor who is currently working on a book, Rose Gardening in Southern California. He has gardened in San Diego for more than a dozen years, as well as in diverse climates around the world.

The roses listed in this series of articles are all roses that I either grow or have grown in my Normal Heights garden. I have found that most garden catalogs, even local ones, are impossibly vague and give nothing but praise for the roses they're trying to flog. Here, for whatever it's worth, is an alphabetical list of these roses that, just like people, have their strengths and weaknesses.

Since a picture is worth a thousand words, check out roses of interest by name at <http://www.helpmefind.com/rose/roses.php>; clicking the photo tab at the top of the page will usually give multiple photos of the rose in bloom.

This is not a complete list, and it doesn't give a how-to of rose care. All roses need the same main things: sun; deep, thorough, weekly watering (for in-ground roses; potted roses are a different story); good air circulation, good soil (properly amended), regular fertilizing, and proper pruning (not butchering back to three-inch stumps à la East Coast). Disease control is useful—the operative word being control, not eradication. I personally do not use any insect controls, other than to deal with earwigs in "bad" years. I find that encouraging beneficials is better than creating a chemical moonscape. The odd chewed leaf or gnawed upon bud is, for me at least, worth the alternative.

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Plants That Bite

They seduce and trap. Here's your guide to the carnivores.

BY JOHN NOBLE

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BARRY RICE. © BARRY RICE, SARRACENIA.COM

Carnivorous plants are taking root. They are moving around the planet via plane, train, and car, finding homes and looking for something to eat.

Exotic creatures with exotic names such as Venus flytrap, pitcher plant, cobra plant, sundew, butterwort, and bladderwort are all plants capable of luring, catching, and consuming members of the animal world.

Where are these plants coming from? How many kinds are there? What is their place in nature? How did they develop? What are their needs? Can they survive in San Diego?

It was only 150 years ago that botanists started characterizing plants as carnivores or insectivores (as Darwin called them). It was the discovery of the plant's secretions of digestive enzymes and acids that earned them this gruesome distinction. Before then, the killing aspects of the traps, pitchers, and the sundew were thought to be just for protection, similar to thorns.

Botanists found carnivorous plants naturally growing in small communities all over the earth. They grow on every continent, with over 600 species of carnivorous plants on the planet. Sundews can be found in the Alaskan tundra, cobra plants in northern California, and Venus flytraps in North Carolina.

Many species grow in boggy conditions or rainforests. Bogs are soggy areas found around the perimeter of ponds and lakes. Water continuously washes through the bog, leaching all the nutritional minerals that plants need for growth. The rain forest is also a mineral-deficient environment.

Plants cannot live on water and sun alone. They need nitrogen, potassium, phosphorous, magnesium, and so on. Most plants on the planet rely on their root system to take up nutrients. Carnivorous plants often rely on their leaves and stems to take in nutrients. This enables them to thrive where few other plants can

live. Insects and small animals become their prey. Carnivorous plants actually eat for a living.

Their place in nature seems strange.

The plant kingdom is usually portrayed as docile and serene. Visualize the plants of a mountain meadow, a tropical rain forest, or a desert.

Imagine the plants living their lives, day and night, day after day, thriving and surviving. Looking up at the sun, they are peacefully consuming the rays of life, accepting their place on the rotating earth. They are like infants serenely sucking the rays of sunlight as though it was mother's milk.

THE GENERA

The animal kingdom with its aggressive nature was always considered to be at the top of the food chain, with its herbivores eating the plant world, and then higher on the chain are its carnivores eating other members of the animal kingdom.

Many plants, like grasses and vegetables, are helpless and their lives are sacrificed at the beginning of the food chain. But then the plant world starts to get defensive. Some, like roses and cacti, develop thorns

and needles for physical protection. Some, like oleander and castor bean, develop poisons that can kill. The thorns, needles, and poisons are nasty defense mechanisms.

Beyond being defensive, the plant world also has an aggressive side. To obtain nutrition, many plants have developed survival techniques that virtually or literally suck the life from others.

Some plants attack plants. Mistletoe and dodder are two local

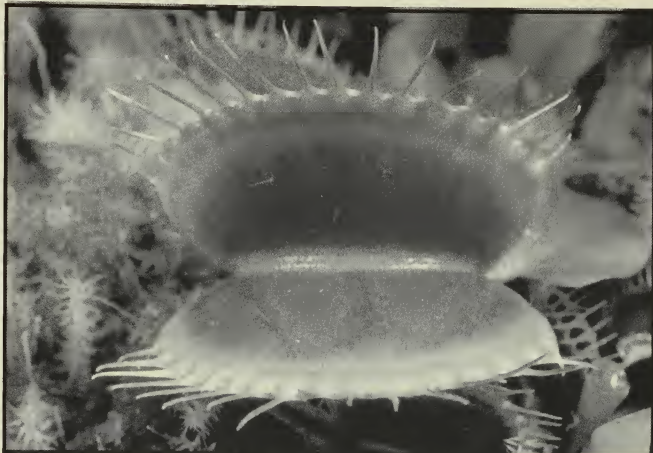
plants that tap into other plants for their nutritional needs. These plants are called parasites. They are the herbivores of the plant kingdom. That puts them on the same level in the food chain as, perhaps, plant-eating aphids, snails, or rabbits.

Other plants attack insects and small animals. These are the carnivores. These plants should rank on the same level as lizard, frog, or cat. Conceptually, carnivorous plants would be higher on

the food chain than human vegetarians.

Humans need not fear. Carnivorous plants only consume insects and some small mammals. They are often quite beautiful and tantalize the world for a closer inspection.

Sundews, plants in the genus *Drosera*, are perhaps the most common to encounter. On a sunny day, after the morning dew has long faded, your eyes may be drawn to a glistening plant. The leaves and stems are green and all covered with little red hairs, each with a clear drop of glue-like substance. Fooled insects are caught and digested. Some *Drosera* species have flat spatula leaves hugging the ground in a basal rosette. Other species have leaves that look more like grasses or ferns.



THE TRAIL OF SWEET NECTAR LEADS YOU TO AN OPENING. INSIDE IS LIT LIKE A HOTEL LOBBY WITH A TIFFANY GLASS CEILING. ONCE INSIDE, THE EXIT IS DIFFICULT TO FIND, THE BRIGHT CEILING HAS NO OPENINGS, AND THE WALLS ARE COVERED WITH SLIPPERY DOWNWARD POINTING HAIRS. WELCOME TO THE HOTEL CALIFORNIA.

The Venus flytrap is perhaps the most popular of carnivorous plants. It seems very animated with its trap of interlocking claw-like leaves. The naïve insect, seeking sweet nectar, apparently does not notice the menacing appearance. By brushing a couple of trigger hairs, the insect stimulates an electric pulse that signals a rapid reflexive growth in the leaves, and the insect is trapped and eaten.

The pitcher plants make up several genera: *Sarracenia*, *Darlingtonia*, *Heliamphora*, *Nepenthes*, and *Cephalotus*. The trap is basically an unlike receptacle often filled with a digestive liquid. Each genus and species will have its unique luring and trapping abilities.

Photo on cover: *Cobra plant* (*Darlingtonia*); previous page *Venus flytrap* (*Dionaea*); this page: *Bladderwort* (*Utricularia longifolia*); next page: *Sundew* (*Drosera nidiformis*)

Growing in northern California, the cobra plant *Darlingtonia californica* has a long curved urn and a lighted hood with a nectar-baited forked lure. It has the appearance of a cobra ready to strike.

Pretend that you are an insect attracted to the nectar. You land on the nectar-baited part and crawl around. The trail of sweet nectar leads you to an opening. Inside is lit like a hotel lobby with a tiffany glass ceiling. Being well-fed, you luxuriously enter. Once inside, the exit is difficult to find, the bright ceiling has no openings, and the walls are covered with slippery downward pointing hairs. Welcome to the Hotel California.

The butterworts, genus *Pinguicula*, get their common name because their leaves feel like butter. *Pinguicula* means "little greasy one." The butterworts, or commonly called pings, are usually small, flat-leaved plants growing in a rosette. The greasy feel comes from minute hairs that produce a sticky substance that traps insects like flypaper. Most of their prey is small in size like fruit flies.

The bladderworts, the genus *Utricularia*, are less obvious in their appetite than the other plants mentioned, but they are perhaps the most aggressive. They live in water or in wet soils. They are rootless but have stems with little bladders. These bladders act like mini water vacuums. They pump water out and seal the entrance. When a small insect swims by, a trigger opens the entrance and the surrounding water with the insect is instantaneously swallowed into the bladder. Many of the bladderworts, or commonly called utrics, have beautiful flowers.

There are other carnivorous plants out there. The genera mentioned are the predominant ones. Note that not all of them produce digestive enzymes. Sometimes a plant will just trap and kill an insect. Other insects or bacteria then help with the digestion process.

CARING FOR THE CARNIVORES

In the past 50 or 60 years, the fascinating traits of carnivorous plants have



lured more than bugs; they have seduced many plant collectors. Today, there are many groups devoted to carnivorous plants, including the San Diego Carnivorous Plant Society and the International Carnivorous Plant Society. These societies play an important role.

Although carnivorous plants have developed the skills to survive in nutrient-deficient environments, in modern times, they have a new problem of survival. Much of the carnivorous plants' natural habitats are under attack. This is by, of course, one of nature's biggest enemies, the hairless yellow ten-ton monster with earth-breaking jaws and an insatiable appetite. Its common name is the bulldozer.

Protecting natural environments is a monumental task. Everyone should do what they can. Interested people can contact plant societies for ways to help.

Plant propagators are aiding carnivorous plant survival, by making them more available for botanical gardens and the home gardener.

Horticulturalists are adding to the palette some showy exotic hybrids and cultivars. There are several cultivars of the Venus flytrap. The pitcher plants, in the genus *Sarracenia*, hybridize freely. This allows for the creation of some very showy insect-devouring plants.

Growing them in San Diego takes a little care and understanding. Watering is the tricky part. Carnivorous plants like rain, lots of it. Many go dormant in the winter when we get our rains and then grow rapidly in the spring and summer when there is none. The water from the hose is mineral-rich and very unhealthy. Carnivorous plants need pure water. If you have just a few plants, buying distilled or low-sodium water will work. If you become a serious collector, you would want to buy a reverse-osmosis water-filtering system.

A simple soil medium of peat and sand in a container or bog works well. Keep the soil wet but allow it to drain so that the roots can breathe. If you do grow them inside, feed them occasionally with a diluted fertilizer. Growing the plants outside in direct sunlight is ideal.

They are much easier to care for than cats and dogs. Carnivorous plants don't beg to be fed. They ask for one simple thing: pure water. They are very sensitive beings, and our highly mineralized tap water is toxic to them. Carnivorous plants make great pets.

John Noble is the owner of Coastal Sage Gardening and Botany for Kids, as well as cofounder of In Harmony Herbs and Spices.

SUGGESTED READING

The Savage Garden by Peter D'Amato
(Ten Speed Press, 1998)
Growing Carnivorous Plants by Dr. Barry A. Rice (Timber Press, 2006)

MORE INFORMATION

James Booman
www.plantsforkids.com
760-630-4170
email: info@plantsforkids.com
San Diego Carnivorous Plant Society
9522 Oviedo St.
San Diego, CA 92129
www.sdcpss.com
contact: Al Hitchens
email: alsmail@san.rr.com
858-229-1805
International Carnivorous Plant Society
3310 Yorba Linda Blvd.
Fullerton, CA 92831
www.carnivorousplants.org
email: carl@carnivorousplants.org

May/June Calendar of Events

May 21 | Monday

San Diego Rose Society Monthly Meeting, Potluck and Little Rose Show. Cliff Orent, owner and CEO of Ashdown West, will be guest speaker. His talk will discuss the adventures of moving his 5,000 roses from Palm Springs to Morongo Valley in the high desert and his company's focus on introducing into commerce a significant number of rare roses. 6:30 p.m. potluck dinner (bring food to share); 7:00 p.m. Consulting Rosarian Corner with Phil Ash; 7:30 p.m. program. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Free. Visitors always welcome.

May 22 | Tuesday

Bamboo and Plastic Tubing Construction. Use bamboo and plastic tubing to make your choice of constructions. All materials provided. Teacher: Kathy Walsh. Cost: \$20. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Room 104, Casa del Prado. Coffee and sweets provided; bring your own sandwich. Call Marie Walsh for information at 619-298-5182. To register, contact the Association at 619-232-5762. This is a fun way to make something beautiful. Gourds and all materials provided.

May 23 | Wednesday

Ikebana International. Demonstration by Kyoko Womer, Grand Master of the Wafu School of Ikebana, and a demonstration of Chinese cooking by Jackie Zhang and Pui Lan Ng. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. For information, contact Susan Jackson, 760-728-5586. Guests welcome.

Mission Hills Garden Club Monthly Meeting. Artist Leslie Parke will present "The Artist's Eye: An Interpretation of Monet and His Gardens in Giverny, France." Meeting at United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw St. Free to Garden Club members, \$10 for guests. 6:00 p.m. social, 6:30 meeting. For information, call 619-255-2110 or check <http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org>.

May 26-27 | Saturday-Sunday

Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park Annual Plant Show and Sale. 11:00-5:00 Saturday; 11:00-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park.

June 2 | Saturday

San Diego Floral Association Tour of Historic Gardens— "Revisiting Our Past." 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit gardens in Mission Hills and Point Loma, where many founding members enjoyed their gardens. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 on day of the tour; may be purchased at the following nurseries: Walter Andersen in

Point Loma and Poway; Cedros Gardens in Solana Beach; Weidners in Encinitas, Mission Hills, San Diego, Moose Creek, Alpine, and at the San Diego Floral Association office in Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Included in the tour will be "Rosecroft" in Point Loma, built in 1912 by Alfred D. Robinson, a noted horticulturist and founder of San Diego Floral Association. Tickets may also be purchased at Rosecroft on the day of the tour. No strollers. No smoking. No cell phones. Tickets will indicate where maps may be secured on June 2. Information: 619-232-5762 or www.sdfloal.org.

June 2-3 | Saturday and Sunday

2007 Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale. Strange and exotic plants from the far corners of the world gathered together for your viewing amazement. Potting service will be available along with cultural information. Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Judging after 3 p.m. on Saturday.) Room 101 and patio, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. For information, 619-462-1805 or 760-758-7042 or www.sdcss.com.

June 9-10 | Saturday and Sunday

Fullerton Arboretum Perennial Plant Sale. Free admission and parking. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. 714-278-8347.

June 11 | Monday

San Diego Horticultural Society Meeting with speaker Annie Hayes, owner of Annie's Annuals & Perennials. 6 p.m. at the Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd. Plant forum, lending library, and selected vendors. Visit <http://www.sdhortsoc.org> or call 760-295-7089 for more information.

June 12 | Tuesday

Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park. 7 p.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Free. Visitors welcome.

June 13 | Wednesday

Bonita Valley Garden Club Installation Luncheon. San Diego County Club. \$20. Contact Sue Hauwiler, 619-948-3045, for information.

June 16 | Saturday

Master Gardeners' Summer Plant Sale. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. A fundraising event to support the Master Gardeners' public education activities. For further information, call 858-694-2859 or visit www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.

June 18 | Monday

San Diego Rose Society Monthly Meeting and Little Rose Show. 7:00 p.m. Consulting Rosarian Corner with Phil Ash; 7:30 p.m. program. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Free. Visitors always welcome. For more information, see www.sdrosesociety.org.

June 19 | Tuesday

San Diego Floral Association Annual Meeting: "Slow Gardening." Program by Felder Rushing, author or co-author of 15 garden books and highly sought after garden lecturer. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Limited seating; reservations required. 6 p.m. optional catered dinner, \$12 for members and \$20 for nonmembers (includes program) by reservation. 7 p.m. program, free to members, \$5 for nonmembers. Reservations should be made at the SDFA office, 619-232-5762, prior to Monday, June 18. For further information, visit www.sdfloal.org.

California Native Plant Society June Meeting. Speaker to be announced. 7 p.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Call 916-447-2677 or 916-447-2677 for more information.

Deadline for submissions to horticultural calendar for July/August 2007 issue is May 20. Email event info to calendar@sdfloal.org. San Diego Floral Association is not responsible for last-minute changes or any information submitted late by the organizations.

May 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Two-Session Gourd Decorating Class, Part I, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	2	3	4 10th Annual Sage & Songbirds Bird & Butterfly Garden Tour	5 Clairemont Garden Tour Sage & Songbirds Festival Fullerton Arboretum Herb Extravaganza Vista Garden Club's Flower Show and Plant Sale San Diego Iris Society Show Gourd and Basket Classes at Quail
6 Sage & Songbirds Festival Fullerton Arboretum Herb Extravaganza Vista Garden Club's Flower Show and Plant Sale San Diego Iris Society Show Gourd and Basket Classes at Quail	7 Palomar District Floral Design Forum, 12:30 p.m.	8 Two-Session Gourd Decorating Class, Part II, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park, 7 p.m.	9 Point Loma Garden Club Monthly Meeting, 10 a.m. to noon. "Bonita in Bloom," 11th Annual Garden Tour and Luncheon, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	10	11	12 Mission Hills Garden Club Garden Walk "Castles & Cottages" La Jolla Garden Club Gardeners' Market Pre-Mother's Day Epiphyllum Plant & Cuttings Sale Quail Botanical Garden Chocolate Festival
13 Annual Mother's Day Epiphyllum Show and Plant Sale: "Asian Fantasy," 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.	14 San Diego Horticulture Society Meeting, 6 p.m.	15 Decoupage Gourd Decorating, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. California Native Plant Society May Meeting, 7 p.m.	16	17	18	19 Reflections in Art—A Floral Exhibition Art Show and Plant Sale San Diego Rose Society Annual Rose Show, "A Celebration of Balboa Park" Geranium Show and Sale
20 San Diego Rose Society Annual Rose Show, "A Celebration of Balboa Park" Geranium Show and Sale	21 San Diego Rose Society Monthly Meeting, Potluck and Little Rose Show, 6:30 p.m.	22 Bamboo and Plastic Tubing Construction, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	23 Ikebana International Demonstration Mission Hills Garden Club Monthly Meeting, 6:30 p.m.	24	25	26 Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park Annual Plant Show and Sale, 11:00 to 5:00
27 Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park Annual Plant Show and Sale, 11:00 to 4:30 p.m.	28	29	30	31		

June 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 San Diego Floral Association Tour of Historic Gardens—"Revisiting Our Past," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2007 Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
3 2007 Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	4	5	6	7	8	9 Fullerton Arboretum Perennial Plant Sale, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
10 Fullerton Arboretum Perennial Plant Sale, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	11 San Diego Horticultural Society Meeting, 6 p.m.	12 Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park, 7 p.m.	13 Bonita Valley Garden Club Installation Luncheon	14	15	16 Master Gardeners' Summer Plant Sale, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
17	18 San Diego Rose Society Monthly Meeting and Little Rose Show, 7:00 p.m.	19 San Diego Floral Association Annual Meeting: "Slow Gardening," 6 p.m. California Native Plant Society June Meeting, 7 p.m.	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30/ 31

May Calendar of Events

May 1 | Tuesday

□Two-Session Gourd Decorating Class, Part I. Gourds and all materials provided. Teacher: M. J. Wydro. Cost: \$50 for both sessions plus a small materials fee paid to teacher. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Room 104, Casa del Prado. Coffee and sweets provided; bring your own sandwich. Call Marie Walsh for information at 619-298-5182. To register, contact the Association at 619-232-5762.

May 4-6 | Friday - Sunday

10th Annual Sage & Songbirds Bird & Butterfly Garden Tour, Alpine. Six private home gardens plus raptor rehabilitation facility; self-guided tour. Tickets \$15 per person. Information: 619-445-8352 or www.chirp.org.

May 5 | Saturday

Clairemont Garden Tour sponsored by the Clairemont Town Council. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets \$10 each; can be purchased at the UPS Store, 4809 Clairemont Drive, or by mailing SASE and check to Clairemont Town Council Garden Tour, PO Box 17793, San Diego, CA 92177-7793. For further information, call 858-831-9555 or go to www.clairemontonline.com.

May 5-6 | Saturday-Sunday

10th Annual Sage & Songbirds Festival & Garden Mart. Viejas Outlet Center, Alpine. Free admission, free ongoing educational seminars, free butterfly release (thousands of live butterflies), free caterpillar races, youth activities, vendors, and more. Information: 619-445-8352 or www.chirp.org.

Fullerton Arboretum Herb Extravaganza and Plant Sale. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. Free admission and parking. 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton. 714-278-8347.

Vista Garden Club's 72nd Annual Standard Flower Show and Plant Sale. Saturday, 2-6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Brengle Terrace Park Recreation Center, 1200 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista. Information: http://members.cox.net/vgc/special_events.htm.

San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Show, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Sat., 1-5 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Gourd and Basket Classes at Quail Botanical Gardens. Sponsored by Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To sign up for a class, go to <http://baskets-gourds.com>, where you can view the catalog and print out a registration form or call 760-436-3036, ext. 206 for further information.

May 7 | Monday

Palomar District Floral Design Forum. Program by Jane Soher, party designer, floral design teacher, and florist. 12:30 p.m., The Woman's Club of Carlsbad, 3320 Monroe Street in Carlsbad. \$8 or \$45 for a series of eight sessions October through May. Contact Velma West, 760-747-6615, or Deedee Speer, 760-749-9608, for information.

May 8 | Tuesday

□Two-Session Gourd Decorating Class, Part II. Gourds and all materials provided. Teacher: M. J. Wydro. Cost: \$50 for both sessions plus a small materials fee paid to teacher. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Room 104, Casa del Prado. Coffee and sweets provided; bring your own sandwich. Call Marie Walsh for information at 619-298-5182. To register, contact the Association at 619-232-5762.

Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park. 7 p.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Free. Visitors welcome.

May 9 | Wednesday

Point Loma Garden Club Monthly Meeting: Greg Asbagh, an expert on tropical gardens, will speak on his own tropical garden in Leucadia. 10 a.m. to noon. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, Point Loma. Information: 619-223-3315 or www.plgc.org.

"Bonita in Bloom," 11th Annual Garden Tour and Luncheon. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Box lunch available by advance purchase for \$10. For tickets, call 619-479-0429. Bonita/Sunnyside Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita.

May 12 | Saturday

Epiphyllum Society early bird sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

2007 Mission Hills Garden Club Garden Walk "Castles & Cottages." 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. Tickets \$15.00 in advance; \$20 day of the walk. Purchase tickets at Mission Hills, Walter Andersen, or Cedros Gardens Nurseries. Information: 619-923-3624 or www.missionhillsgardendub.org.

La Jolla Garden Club Gardeners' Market featuring blooming plants, fresh floral arrangements, and a bake sale. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Washington Mutual Bank patio, 7777 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. Information: 858-450-1769.

Pre-Mother's Day Epiphyllum Plant & Cuttings Sale. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Courtyard, Casa del Prado building, Balboa Park. <http://www.epiphyllum.com>.

Quail Botanical Garden Chocolate Festival. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tasting tickets are available for 50 cents; general admission prices apply. For more information, call 760-436-3036, ext. 206 or email info@qbgardens.com.

May 13 | Sunday

Annual Mother's Day Epiphyllum Show and Plant Sale: "Asian Fantasy." 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. <http://www.epiphyllum.com>.

May 14 | Monday

San Diego Horticulture Society Meeting. Horticulturist Gisele Schoniger will discuss how "Healthy Soils Equals Healthy Gardens." 6 p.m. in the Surfside Race Place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on Jimmy Durante Blvd. Plant forum, lending library, and selected vendors. <http://www.sdhortsoc.org> or call 760-295-7089.

May 15 | Tuesday

□Decoupage Gourd Decorating. Learn to decorate gourds with decoupage. Teacher: Dorothy Elwell. Cost: \$20. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Room 104, Casa del Prado. Coffee and sweets provided; bring your own sandwich. Call Marie Walsh for information at 619-298-5182. To register, contact the Association at 619-232-5762.

California Native Plant Society May Meeting. Speaker to be announced. 7 p.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Information: 916-447-2677 or www.cnpssd.org.

May 19 | Saturday

Reflections in Art—A Floral Exhibition Art Show and Plant Sale. Novices to expert floral designers present creations on themes by artists of the Point Loma Artists Association and other masters. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. All Souls Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Blvd., Pt. Loma. For information, call 619-223-3315 or visit www.plgc.org.

May 19-20 | Saturday-Sunday

San Diego Rose Society Annual Rose Show, "A Celebration of Balboa Park." 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Sunday, Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park. Entries received from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. Admission \$4.00 per person; children and military in uniform are free. Free parking. Information: Julie Nydam, 858-395-4734, or <http://www.sdrosesociety.org>.

Geranium Show and Sale. Rare and unusual geraniums and pelargoniums will be offered for sale at a "Country Fair." 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Admission is free, and all are welcome. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. <http://www.sdgeranium.org>.

Lean and Green

Broccoli is healthful and delicious.

BY BOB HORWITZ

When I was a kid, and that is a long time ago, nobody ever heard of broccoli. It started to become a common vegetable when my kids were growing up. Today, it is one of the most popular of the nutritional vegetables available.

It's an attractive plant with dark green foliage and appetizingly green bracts, which is the part of the plant eaten. It can be grown year-round except for the cold high parts of our county. Plant the seeds in flats in late winter or early spring. Space them adequately. After the seedlings have developed several leaves, they can be transplanted into the ground. Space them a foot or so apart.

The soil should be rich and well draining at least a foot deep. After the plant has gotten well established and is at least six inches tall, start fertilizing with a balanced fertilizer. In about two to three months, the head of the plant should be ready to harvest. Harvest the top head first and let the side heads mature for later harvesting.



Broccoli is fairly insect-free except for the cabbage butterfly, which lays eggs on the underside of the leaves. These eggs turn into "inch" worms, which eat huge holes in the leaves and bracts. Use a safe insecticide to get rid of these pests.

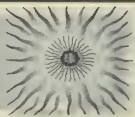
Like most fresh vegetables, the preparation of broccoli should be simple and done to retain as much of its nutrients as possible.

MICROWAVE

Separate the florets into pieces about one inch across. Two cups will serve two people. Place them in a covered microwave-proof container. Lightly salt them and squeeze a bit of lemon juice over them. Microwave using high power for two and a half minutes. Eat hot or cold.

This recipe can be jazzed up by sprinkling grated parmesan cheese on top before cooking, along with ¼ cup sunflower seeds and several minced basil leaves. Kids love this.

SAN DIEGO
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY



Meetings 2nd Monday of each month
6 - 9 pm ♦ Free Admission, Everyone Welcome!
Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds

A Special Evening with the awesome

Annie Hayes

Fabulous Mediterranean Climate Rarities!

Monday, June 11, 6:00pm

Special Location this evening only:

Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Rd., Kearny Mesa
(between Highways 805 and 15, adjacent to Hwy. 163)

The enthusiastic Annie Hayes of Annie's Annuals, a highly respected nursery near San Francisco, has a fine reputation for growing exciting, unusual and hard-to-find plants. Come enjoy this delightful, dedicated plantswoman. The evening includes door prizes, a plant raffle and plant sales. Annie will share a fun and fabulous slideshow of Mediterranean-climate wonders and bring loads of her plants to sell. Don't miss it! Visit Annie on line at www.anniesannuals.com.



Members - FREE, Non-members/\$5

Everyone welcome - bring your gardening friends!

Join us for a guest speaker, plant sales, plant display. Meetings are open to all. Membership brings you:

- ♦ Monthly 26-page newsletter
- ♦ Trips to outstanding gardens
- ♦ Discounts at nurseries
- ♦ 36% off *Pacific Horticulture* magazine
- ♦ Lending library: books & videos
- ♦ and much more!

FREE MEETING:

May 14: Healthy Soils Equals Healthy Gardens

Learn about building healthy microbial colonies in your soil to help suppress diseases and build good soil structure.

FREE WORKSHOP:

April 28: Landscapes Minus Lawn

Meet at 9:30am, 9601 Ridgehaven Ct., Kearny Mesa, Environmental Services Green Building. Landscape designer Pamela Homfelt will lecture while leading a tour of the demonstration garden, consisting of seven individual gardens with over 150 species of plants, trees, succulents, cycads and natives.

Info: sdhortsoc.org or (760) 295-7089

Just You and Irises

BY RICHARD C. RICHARDS

It's not that tough to see great reblooming results.

Tall bearded irises blooming in the fall? In the summer? In the winter?

Strange? Unbelievable? True.

At least one tall bearded iris blossom in the garden every day of the year for a decade?

I've done that.

These aren't your grandmas' old flags. These are recent developments in the iris world and have their own requirements and their own devotees. I'm one of the devotees, and I hybridize those irises. Not just any old tall bearded iris is capable of such performance. It takes a unique blend of ancestry (genetics) and careful garden practices.

ANCESTRY

Among the species that went into the development of the tall bearded irises are some with the ability to produce autumn bloom in favorable climates. Some of those species might even show a little summer bloom. If the winter is mild enough, a bit of bloom is possible.

That genetic heritage is behind the tall bearded irises, recently produced by breeders, which will bloom any time of the year in Southern California. These irises are still in the minority if you examine the new irises introduced each year by breeders, both professional and amateur. It is unusual to find any of them at your local garden nursery. But they are available.

A mild, Mediterranean climate is ideal to bring out the reblooming tendency, though some of these irises will bloom in the colder states in early autumn. If cold weather comes too early, they will be cut down in mid-flower. Here in Southern California, the irises are free to bloom whenever their hearts desire, and for some varieties, that is pretty often. Some will bloom during all seasons if you have a big enough clump or several clumps of the same variety.

GARDEN PRACTICES

Reblooming tall bearded irises will make two or more growth cycles in a given year, unlike the traditional irises' one growth cycle. That is why they are ready to bloom during seasons other than spring. With such vigorous growth, garden conditions must be close to

ideal. These irises are heavy feeders and must be supplied with all their needs most of the time. Grandma's old blue flags had almost no requirements.

Let's look at these requirements for the modern reblooming tall bearded iris.

Care must be taken with regard to soil conditions. Drainage is very important. In a light soil, there is no problem, but in most Southern California clay or adobe soils, something must be done to lighten the soil. I use large quantities of gypsum every time I rebuild an iris bed, which is usually every two years. This might mean a pound of gypsum for every square foot of garden. It depends on how heavy the soil is, and the soil may still be quite heavy after years of gypsum use.

The irises need food. I start the feeding process by using large amounts of peat moss in my garden soil, as heavy as a cubic foot of peat for every 10 square feet of soil. I also amend the soil with a high phosphate fertilizer such as Superphosphate. I add regular granulated garden fertilizer at that time, avoiding fertilizers that are too high in nitrogen. That can cause excessive leaf growth, and I don't grow irises for the foliage. Some growers use animal fertilizers, but care must be taken never to allow the fertilizer to come in contact with the rhizome. The best way to handle this potential problem is to bury the animal manure about a foot below the rhizome. The roots will soon find the manure.

Planting should leave the rhizome in a slightly raised position so no water can collect around the rhizome and cause rot. The top of the iris should be just at soil level. The rhizome is not a bulb and will not take kindly to being planted a few inches below the soil surface.

Since reblooming irises are heavy feeders, they do not like competition for the available nutrition. Irises should be

planted at least a foot apart—and a foot and a half is better. Irises in a mixed planting also need that space. Overcrowding will result in fewer blossoms, shorter stalks, and often no rebloom at all.

Watering should be done once a week unless rain appears. In the summer, watering early morning or late afternoon seems to work well. Most bearded irises should be allowed to dry out between waterings, and a week between waterings has been successful for me. Regular watering is essential, or the irises will go dormant. Summer dormancy is normal for a non-reblooming tall bearded iris. Summer dormancy is undesirable for a reblooming iris since it should be busy

WHERE TO FIND THEM

This is a short list of commercial iris gardens with whom I have dealt in the past that either feature or at least list reblooming irises. They are all from the California area.

I prefer dealing with California growers because irises may take a while to adjust to our climate if brought in from Northern, Midwest, or East Coast sources. There are many other iris gardens around the country, but I have had the best results from these two, who are in our geographical area.

Superstition Iris Gardens

2536 Old Highway, Cathey's Valley, CA
95306. randrcv@sierratel.com

Sutton's Iris Gardens

16592 Road 208. Porterville, CA 93257.
info@suttoniris.com

making a year's worth of growth in a few months and needs more food and water than its non-reblooming relatives.

To me, watering an iris garden does not mean standing with a hose long enough to wet the soil surface. It means at least half an hour from an overhead sprinkler, or the equivalent from a drip system.

The exception to this procedure occurs with newly planted rhizomes. In that case, keep the rhizomes damp but not soaking wet until new growth appears on the sides of the rhizome. This can take as long as two or three months or may occur in less than a month.

I find that a monthly spraying with soluble fertilizer from a hose-end sprayer is helpful, avoiding too high a nitrogen content if possible. In the winter, when cool temperatures slow down iris metabolism, every six weeks is a good interval for this kind of fertilizing.

To summarize, reblooming irises are heavy feeders. To keep them happy, you have to do some heavy feeding, both at planting time and during the two years they are performing.

After two years, they need to be dug, divided, the soil renewed by the various amendments I mentioned before, and put back in the ground to start all over. They may not bloom for up to a year when they are divided. Some varieties like a few months to get their roots set and get their increase developed. Others may take almost a year and then reward you with a startling display of bloom. I divide either right after spring bloom or in late September or early October.

Irises are relatively pest-free. I spray with a systemic pesticide in the fall, in January or early February, and in April if I see signs of pests. Aphids are the main problem, but snails, slugs, and some biting and sucking insects may attack a plant and its bloom. Systemic pesticides seem to handle most insect problems for me. A good snail and slug poison controls the bigger problems.

Other growers have their own preferences regarding garden practices. There is more than one way to skin a cat, if you like skinned cats.

AVAILABILITY

Most of the larger commercial suppliers and breeders are not fond of reblooming irises. These organizations are set up on rigid schedules and don't like to see irises blooming in the summer when they are digging rhizomes



for market. Nor do they want to send out a box of rhizomes to a customer who may discover a flower stalk developing on the rhizome when he opens the box of irises the delivery service left on his doorstep.

The American Iris Society pays relatively little attention to reblooming irises when it makes its awards, though

some reblooming tall bearded irises have won awards. There seems to be a long entrenched prejudice against rebloom on the part of the majority of the members. Hopefully this will change.

This means that reblooming tall-bearded irises are available mostly from smaller commercial farms and breeders, with one or two notable exceptions. A few commercial gardens list them and sell them along with the regular once-blooming irises. Fewer commercial gardens specialize in them. Since rebloom depends as much on excellent garden practices as it does on reblooming DNA, these gardens are taking a bit of a chance in disappointing customers, who, for one reason or another, cannot get the irises to rebloom. This adds another reason why many commercial iris gardens want little to do with rebloom.

Now, about getting an iris blossom every day of the year. I did it with around 35 carefully selected varieties, two clumps of each. The two-clump requirement is because I divide half my garden each year, and newly replanted clumps may not bloom for a year. So one clump of a given variety is divided and reset each year.

I suspect that if one were to select varieties very carefully, the feat of a blossom each day of the year could be accomplished with 10 to 15 varieties. My own iris-breeding program does not allow me the time or space at this point to verify my suspicion.

Richard Richards is an Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, where he specialized in medieval philosophy, the philosophy of love and sex, and the philosophy of humor. He has been hybridizing tall bearded reblooming irises for 25 years and Pacific coast native irises for over 30 years.

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PURPLE MAJESTY



BY DOROTHY CARROLL

It is said that if you are walking underneath the jacaranda tree and one of the trumpet blossoms falls on your head, you will be favored by fortune.

I wonder if that could have entered the mind of Sylvia Simpson Coleman back in the fall of 1986, when she agreed to be my civic beautification chairman for the Village Garden Club of La Jolla. I was the new president and trying to recruit members to volunteer and be on various committees for the next one to two years. I envisioned that we'd assist the city with flower plantings in the median strips around La Jolla. Coleman, however, had a much greater and more lasting vision.

"I will take the chairmanship, but here's what I want to do," she said. "I want to get the Garden Club and San Diegans involved and transform the city into a beautiful paradise of jacaranda trees so people will come by the busload and plane load from all over the world during our 'less colorful' months of May and June just to see the jacaranda trees in full bloom. Imagine," Silvia exclaimed, "thousands of people coming to visit San Diego in May and June to enjoy the beauty of the lavender-blue flowers. We could have parades and even a Jacaranda Festival, just as they do in Washington, D.C., every spring for the cherry blossoms."

Who could resist such enthusiasm? So, through Sylvia's hard work and dedication, in the fall of 1986, The Village Garden Club of La Jolla established its Jacaranda Tree Planting Program. This club year (2006-2007), we celebrate the 20th anniversary of this jacaranda tree beautification of the San Diego area. Each year, the Garden Club solicits donations from individuals who wish to support this project and, with the cooperation and assistance of various city and county agencies, jacaranda trees are planted on public lands. Donations are made in honor of loved ones, to celebrate a person's birth, to memorialize an anniversary, or "just because." Donations are also made for trees to be planted in memory of loved ones, friends, relatives, neighbors, or for special events.

In November 2000, the jacaranda tree was designated the official tree of the city of San Diego through the efforts of then-chairman Donna Derrick, who took up the project after Coleman passed away. The current jacaranda co-chairs for The Village Garden Club of La Jolla are Pat Miller and Pam Ingersoll.

What is it about the jacaranda tree that makes it so special? An article in this magazine, published in the August/September 1964 issue, written by Roland Hoyt, perhaps explains a bit more. Hoyt was a landscape architect in San Diego for 38 years at that time and was a consultant for the City Planning

Department for 15 years. He served as landscape architect for local projects such as the Mission Bay Park and Recreation Area, Mission Valley Center, the Salk Institute for Biology, and the Center City Concourse in San Diego. He also was designated to design a master landscape plan for San Diego State University and was a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, an honor conferred only upon the profession's most outstanding practitioners.

As Hoyt put it in that article, "Here is a flowering tree of elegance and all the renderings of that word, clarity, grace, distinction, felicity, with restraint included for measure and purity of decorum that fit it for human use.

"The tree is of open, irregular structure to a roundish head of rather loose texture, at, eventually, some 50 feet under best culture and site conditions. The young specimen may require a little pruning to determine the ultimate shape, but the mature form will be found to have worked the problem out pretty well by itself, with discrimination and individuality . . . as with the human ego. It is an all-round tree for service almost everywhere in the domestic landscape, lawn or patio and especially as a street tree where there is any chance for survival.

"The jacaranda affords a very substantial, but not a dense shade all during the heat of the year, then opens to winter for sun-heat to thaw through to the earth for whatever there wants warmth, plant or man. The limbs and branches at this time are found to have something of the quality of an oriental print . . . for those who will see. There is nothing naked about this time and branching. It, the tree, expresses the season as it does, in fact, the complete cycle of life and living. This is too often overlooked in subtropical regions in a ridiculous, trivial and puerile search for eternal summer.

"The shedding of the lacy, fern-like foliage comes sometimes in February or March when the flower buds are beginning to show, the only shabby moment of the year when the leaves are pushing off . . . 'remnants of glory.' A long wait then is no more than a reminder of so many good things, pleased more, and more deeply enjoyed under anticipation. There is a kind of dawdling, deferment of action, a matter of standing over or waiting for warmth, the blooming finally.

"A rare spectacle then presents color over a few weeks, a flowering of exquisite quality and finally a fallout of the blue, a solid carpet over the earth . . . sweep only the walks."

Truly, Hoyt verbally captured the magic of when the jacaranda are in full bloom with their blue-violet colored blossoms opening to the gray sky of San Diego's May-June "gloom" and bringing unexpected color back into our lives. Some people dislike the blossoms as they fall on the ground and consider it "litter," but look at it the way Hoyt did, as a beautiful carpet over the earth, and only sweep the sidewalks.

Jacaradas do not require a lot of care. That's another reason they are great for San Diego. As Hoyt wrote, "This aristocrat, suprisingly, is a stout and sturdy individual unusually persevering under hardship as well as prosperity, which is uncommon for a plant of such exotic beauty. While it accepts good moisture, it will be more floriferous if grown on the dry side and actually survives with roots completely cramped or otherwise mutilated by external abuse. It is not demanding as to soil, but prefers a fertile, sandy loam of some depth when it will be seen at its best. There

JACARANDA TREES WARM UP OUR MAY GRAY AND JUNE GLOOM.

are no diseases and no insect pests of note . . . only aphids at budding time which may be flushed off a young tree with hose-water or other contact spray, left to the ladybugs when beyond reach. The tree takes as much as ten degrees of frost without material damage and will return as a multistemmed, blooming affair after a freeze."

From 1964, when Hoyt praised the jacaranda, to today's champions of its beauty, it can be believed that Coleman's dream of parades and a Jacaranda Festival in San Diego will indeed come true.

For information, call 858-459-2039 for Pat Miller or 858-452-6554 for Pam Ingersoll of The Village Garden Club of La Jolla Jacaranda Tree Planting Program.

Dorothy Carroll is a professional writer and editor who also wrote freelance for 12 years with weekly gardening and community articles plus the "Ask Dorothy" question and answer gardening column for the San Diego Tribune and Union-Tribune. She can be reached at dcarroll92109@yahoo.com.

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Digital Photography in the Garden

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY
ARTHUR DAWSON

So, what's the difference between a digital camera and a conventional film camera? In a film camera, light from the image passes through the lens, which focuses it on the film, a sheet of plastic coated with light-sensitive chemicals. Once the film has been exposed, it is developed by chemical treatments that preserve the original "information" from the image while altering the chemicals in the negative so that they are no longer light-sensitive. Printing requires a further step in which the colors of the negative are converted to hues similar to those of the original and the small image on the negative is more or less enlarged.

In digital photography, the light from the image is focused by the lens as before. Instead of chemicals on a film, the light-sensitive elements are the "pixels" of an integrated circuit called a charge-coupled device (CCD). The camera's computer reads the information from the pixels and stores it in a memory card. Then it can be downloaded to your computer directly through a USB connector or more easily via a card reader attached to the computer. There is nothing special about the memory card. It could be used to store the text of this article or any other kind of computer file. Once the information has been transferred to

the computer, appropriate software can be used to construct the image on the computer's monitor or to send it to a printer.

I bought my first digital camera seven years ago. It was a 3.3 megapixel Nikon CoolPix 990, costing a little shy of \$1,000, and it was about the best you could buy in that price range at the time. I had a 35 mm SLR film camera with several lenses, including a macro lens that I used for close-up flower photography. I never expected the digital camera to replace film but within a few weeks I realized that my old camera was obsolete for my purposes. I haven't even opened its case in the years since I "went digital."

So why would a serious garden photographer be satisfied with a "point and shoot" camera? An obvious first answer is to save money. Once you have made the initial investment, "film" and "processing" are essentially free. In the past, I might have exposed an average of three or four rolls of film, perhaps 100 shots, per year. Now I take thousands, discarding all but the best.

When the best consumer digital cameras had resolutions in the 3 megapixel range, you were limited to 10 by 8-inch prints or smaller. If they are blown up larger than that, then what should be smooth curves will show pixilation. With the modern cameras,



there is no appreciable difference in the quality at resolutions from 5 to 13 megapixels, even with prints as large as 16 by 24 inches. If you don't believe me, have a look at David Pogue's excellent *New York Times* article on "the megapixel myth" (<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9507E1DD113FF93BA35751C0A9619C8B63>).

THE ADVANTAGES

For the photographer of flowers, the first huge advantage of a digital camera is that you can see the results almost immediately. If you are less than satisfied with a picture, you can immediately go back and try again. With my old film camera, it might have been weeks before I saw the processed slide or print. The flower had faded long ago and there was no way for me to be certain whether I had captured the subtleties of its color. With a digital photo, I can view it on my computer monitor with the original flower sitting on my desk. Most of the time, the color reproduction is good to excellent, but it is surprising how far off it can be at times. A bit of gentle tweaking with appropriate software can bring it much closer to the original.

The second advantage is that you can quickly and easily edit your photo. Few shots do not benefit from cropping and, after gaining some experience, you will deliberately take a wider field than you need just so that you can be sure of being able to frame the picture perfectly. Almost every shot can use at least a bit of adjustment of the brightness and contrast. Minor blemishes can be removed easily and a snap of the grandchild with disastrous redeye can be turned into a keeper in seconds. Photo editing can certainly be abused, but I believe that its use is legitimate when the purpose is to produce a result that more nearly resembles the original.

It is possible to produce digital photos without using a computer, but that deprives the new technology of most of its power. For this series I am going to assume that you have access to a computer and some kind of photo editing software. I make prints of only a few of my photos and store most of them on the computer. That makes them very easy to find when I want them and on the monitor they look much better than even a very good print. The results are not quite as good as you get with a 35 mm slide, but there is no comparing the convenience of showing a slide show on your monitor versus setting up a slide projector. If you have a CD burner and a DVD player, then you can look at the slide show on your TV. That would be the way to go if you have digital TV, but the standard home TV gives a very poor picture compared with your computer monitor. Finally, you can buy or borrow a video projector and present a conventional slide show from your laptop.

Even if you keep most of your photos on the computer or on CDs, you certainly will want to print one photo from time to

time. For this you will want a dedicated photo printer, most likely from Epson or HP. You can get a very adequate printer for less than \$200. The main ongoing expense in digital photography is for paper and for ink cartridges. If you use a general-purpose inkjet printer, the results will be unsatisfactory. If you use a photo printer for your day-to-day printing, then you will be spending a lot on ink. There are many services, both in your neighborhood and online, that will make prints from your digital photos. You can send them unedited after downloading them from your camera, which is equivalent to taking a film to be processed as you did in the old days. You can edit them yourself and send them over the Internet or put them on a CD to be printed. If you make 4 by 6-inch prints, it's probably cheaper to do it that way than it is to print them yourself. Larger prints are more expensive, but it's still cheaper to have them done professionally unless you are printing enough to justify the cost of a larger printer.

LOOK AROUND

I am a collector of unusual plants and many of them, such as orchids and South African bulbs, bloom for a short period only once a year. By taking a close-up photo when the bloom is at its peak, I am able to enjoy all year a plant that, for most of the season, is nothing but a dormant bulb or some unsightly leaves. Some of these flowers can be seen in garden encyclopedias or specialized pamphlets in photos taken by professionals with much better equipment than I can afford. There is no way, however, that they can publish a book with prints of the quality I can



easily run off at a cost of, say, \$1.25 for a 10 by 8. The expense of producing such a volume would be astronomical.

Most of my photos are taken in my own garden or greenhouse. For those of you who go on safaris, digital photography offers a chance to capture those priceless moments occasionally vouchsafed to the plant lover. As an example, have a look at the shot of the pink lady's slipper, *Cypripedium acaule*, taken at the peak of the black fly season at my brother's house near Ste. Agathe, Quebec. After a long search for the unusual white variant, I finally found one at my brother-in-law's place near Durham Bridge, New Brunswick.

Having, I hope, whetted your appetite with this introduction, I will move on in the next column to how to choose a digital camera.

Arthur Dawson was born in Montreal and came to La Jolla in 1964 to work for Scripps Clinic. He doesn't like change: He's been in the same job for 43 years, married to the same wife for 46 years, in the same house for 40 years, and driving the same car for 20 years—which only goes to show how meaningful the switch to digital photography was for him.

The San Diego Oil Business

The robust history of Charles M. Gifford, the Olive Man. by Nancy Carol Carter

Civic activist and begonia breeder Alfred D. Robinson once described the founding of the San Diego Floral Association. A pillar of the organization himself, Robinson was present at its inception. The idea for the Floral Association emerged from a public meeting called by an ad hoc committee of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce. Members of this ad hoc committee were Robinson, Ford Carpenter, and "Gifford, the olive man."

When writing in 1939, Robinson assumed—with good reason—everyone would know about Charles M. Gifford, "the olive man." Gifford had presided over his own downtown San Diego business for years and was an active supporter of the Chamber of Commerce. Gifford's olives and olive oil had been a brand name in San Diego for decades.

These many years later, Gifford's place in the horticultural history of San Diego and his breakthrough business achievements are not well known. He was the first person in the United States to successfully package and market olives in a tin can. He grew his own olives and built a processing plant for olive oil and canned olives right here in San Diego.

While settlers in San Diego come from all over the world and represent a variety of backgrounds, Gifford may be the only Great Lakes tugboat captain who found his way here. He was the oldest of five children born to Franklin B. and Kate (Linman) Gifford, who lived near the shores of Lake Erie in Pennsylvania. He married Rachel Weelock of Cheboygan, Michigan (a city on Lake Huron). In San Diego, the Giffords bought land in the Jamacha area in 1888 and started growing oranges and grapefruit. After eating a pickled olive provided by a neighbor, Gifford changed his principal crop from citrus to olives.

Gifford had joined the boom in olive cultivation in San Diego County. Olive groves and olive processing were not new to the area, but new varieties of olives were arriving. They supplemented the Mission olives imported by the padres and popularized in the mid-nineteenth century by Frank Kimball. Using cuttings from the trees surrounding Mission San Diego de Alcalá, Kimball propagated and sold thousands of olive saplings and cuttings. Frank Kimball maintained his own groves and produced pickled olives and olive oil beginning in 1883.

Building on Kimball's story, newspapers touted San Diego as a pioneer in olive production and encouraged more planting. Added attention came with reports that Hubert H. Bancroft, the famous California historian, had planted 1,700 olive trees in one day at his Spring Valley farm. Bancroft gradually developed one of the largest olive groves in the county. He wrote a pamphlet on the history of the olive in California, extolling San Diego as a center for olive cultivation. In a few decades, Californians learned that more northerly inland valleys and foothills were better olive-growing country than the southern and coastal regions, but from the 1880s until well into the early 20th century, olive groves were optimistically planted in San Diego.

Gifford built an olive oil factory at his ranch and by 1897 had opened an olive processing business in downtown San Diego. Initially, Gifford sold olives from a large barrel on the back of his horse-drawn wagon. The



Hotel del Coronado was an early customer and he supplied most of the local grocery stores. According to an 1897 newspaper story, he sold 4,500 gallons of picked olives and shipped 25 large barrels and many small kegs to the Atlantic coast in one season.

Gifford's business changed dramatically in 1902, when he began packaging olives in tin cans. The process for canning ripe olives was perfected by an agricultural scientist at the University of California. Gifford consulted with this professor as he experimented with his own processing and canning methods. He built San Diego's first olive cannery on Ninth Avenue between H and I Streets and won the first award ever given for "canned pickled olives" from the San Diego Agricultural Association. It was the first of many prizes awarded his olive products.

Gifford and his wife had three children. The eldest son, Dewitt Charles Gifford, worked as the foreman of the plant of C. M. Gifford & Sons Olive Oil Company for many years. Younger son Orville D. Gifford joined his father as an early and active participant in the California Olive Association, a trade group. (Charles M. Gifford was one of six California olive growers present when the Association was organized in 1915.) After his father's death in 1924, Orville became president of the company. Ruth, the sister of Dewitt and Orville, does not seem to have been active in the business, but her son, Robert L. Smedley, eventually joined his uncles at Gifford's. The company remained a wholly owned family enterprise until 1961, when Orville retired and the business was sold to Westgate-California Corporation.

Gifford did not pioneer the olive business in San Diego County, but his was a longer-lasting institution than its commercial predecessors. Moreover, Gifford's early success in canning olives foretold the future of olive packaging and sales in the United States. Gifford & Sons may be celebrated for its long San Diego life, extending from the early days of the local olive business through the time when the olive trade was solidly established as a major California agricultural industry.

©2007 Nancy Carol Carter, Legal Research Center director and a professor of law at the University of San Diego. Nancy researches horticultural history as a hobby and as a San Diego Historical Society Research Library volunteer. She is currently compiling a definitive bibliography on San Diego horticultural legend Kate Olivia Sessions.



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San Diego Floral Association

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On Saturday, March 24, 2007, The San Diego Floral Association continued its centennial celebration by honoring the following members at The US Grant Hotel. Thank you for all you have done for our organization.

AWARDS

A.D. ROBINSON AWARD

Marie Walsh

Marie and her family arrived in San Diego in 1981. She read about the SDEFA design classes and found outstanding teachers in Adrienne Green, Velma West, Martha Rosenberg, and Ethel Hoyt. Floral design has always been a vital component of the San Diego Floral Association's mission. When Martha Rosenberg was passing her torch, it was received by a creative and capable member who had been her student, Marie Walsh. She became the organizer, teacher, and spirit of the series of workshops we offer to members and the public and has shared her love of nature with multitudes of students.

MARTHA ROSENBERG AWARD

Velma West

Velma West retired with her husband, Keith, and moved to a farm in Valley Center, California. In 1976, Velma joined a Garden Club and by 1980 had entered flower show school. Velma became a flower show judge and when former SDEFA president Nancy Cortingham asked Velma to serve as education chair of Palomar District, Velma created the Palomar District Design Forum. Velma continues to teach flower arranging classes for San Diego Floral Association and gives wonderful floral design programs for garden clubs.

GEORGE MARSTON AWARD

Walter Andersen

Known as Junior to many, Walter was born into the nursery business begun by his parents in 1928. He has been at the helm of the family-owned nursery since 1972. Walter follows a tradition of good business and community service as a community leader and volunteer. Walter's achievements have always come second to his everyday work in the community he loves, with the gardening community he admires and the friends he has made over the last 65 years.

KATE O. SESSIONS CENTENNIAL AWARD

The Roy and Barbara Jones Family

A native San Diegan, Barbara Jones had an abiding passion for plants, majoring in Botany at San Diego State University. As a career naval officer, Roy supported his wife's interest, including Japanese floral design during his two tours of duty in Japan. Returning stateside in the late 1960s, Barbara became active in Point Loma Garden Club, Palomar District, and San Diego Floral Association. She took on editorship of California Garden in 1970. With Roy's active support and participation, Barbara provided 36 years of devoted service to SDEFA.

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Reviews

Did you know? All the books reviewed in *California Garden* are in the San Diego Floral Association library!

SUNSET WESTERN GARDEN BOOK, 8TH ED.

EDITED BY KATHLEEN NORRIS BRENZEL

SUNSET BOOKS

\$39.95; 768 pages;
hardcover

There are some differences between the 2001 *Western Garden Book* edition and this 2007 version. The first one noticed is a section entitled "Gardening Among Friends." This section consists of nine "postcards" written by gardening experts from the Western states who have a specific theme for each essay. California has two such "postcards," one from the North and one from the South. The Southern California essayist speaks of Santa Barbara while the photograph and caption is that of Point Loma. The theme of this particular article is "cutting-edge horticulture," an overriding concept that is not Southern California-specific. However, other essays do match the locale of the writer, such as "The Beauty of Desert Plants," written by an Arizona gardener.

Some readers of the 2001 edition might have made use of the "Resource Directory" section. This 2007 edition does not have such a section, but parts of it, such as "Demystifying Scientific Plant Names," "Pronunciation Guide," and the "Glossary of Gardening Terms," appear as separate features. What has been eliminated is the eight-page part of the old resource directory listing public and historic gardens.

There has been an expansion of the number of plants listed and described. The "Western Plant Encyclopedia" portion is larger by 20 pages, and this section, after

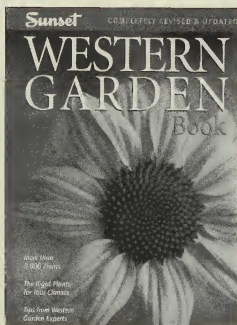
all, is one of the main reasons gardeners rely on this book.

Three other reasons this book has retained its popularity are the "West's Climate Zones," "The Plant Selection Guide," and the "Practical Guide to Gardening" sections. These are all basically unchanged except for updated illustrations.

Finally, the 2001 edition had two indices: one for gardening terms and one for common and scientific plant names. Now there is only one index, which

could have been a combination of the previous two, but there is a definite paucity of plant names. The number of index pages has gone from fifteen to three. This is a real loss for novice gardeners who would like to rely on common plant names to locate the description for those alphabetically listed by botanic names in the plant encyclopedia section. Because of the shrunken index, despite the fact that the plant encyclopedia is larger and contains more information, specific information could very well be much harder to find. Each reader and gardener will need to consider just how critical the new additions and omissions are for his own use before making this purchase.

Still, the basic work remains the self-described "Bible of California Gardening."—Jean Hughes



FLOWER CONFIDENTIAL: THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE BEAUTIFUL IN THE BUSINESS OF FLOWERS

BY AMY STEWART

ALGONQUIN BOOKS OF CHAPEL HILL

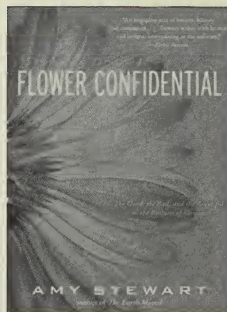
\$23.95; 306 pages; hardcover

Those of us who grow and/or arrange flowers are continually amazed at the breathtaking variety of big, bright, sturdy flowers, in almost any color, that can be purchased in florist shops and flower markets at any season of the year. This state of affairs has been achieved over the last century by the hybridizers, geneticists, farmers, and florists around the world who have worked in a global marketplace to invent, manufacture, and sell flowers that exceed the natural and inherent characteristics of the backyard-grown varieties. In the process, a number of flowers have lost their natural scent

and have necessarily been sprayed with massive amounts of pesticides. Amy Stewart, a garden writer from Eureka, California, and winner of a Creative Writing Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, explores this subject in fascinating detail in *Flower Confidential*.

Stewart begins with the story of horticultural legend Leslie Woodriff,

who bred the famous Star Gazer lily. An eccentric genius, Woodriff worked in a broken-down greenhouse, keeping records of his lily crosses mostly in his head. He carried around photographs of lilies in his shirt pocket, constantly dreaming



of the perfect lily. Even today, the exact parentage of the Star Gazer lily is unclear. Woodriff was part of the last generation of true flower breeders, but he had no business sense. When it became known that he was about to default on his farm, Ted Kirsch, the first owner of what is now Sun Valley Floral Farms, bought Woodriff out and brought Woodriff and his wife to Arcata, California, to live on the Kirsch property. It was here in the 1970s that the upward-facing Oriental lily was discovered growing from Woodriff's bulbs. Kirsch's 1976 patent on that fragrant lily with the red throat led to a billion-dollar business. Though Kirsch bought all of Woodriff's lilies for about \$1,000, he sold them to the Dutch for about \$15,000; the latter are the group that eventually prospered.

The story of the Star Gazer lily is only one of the many fascinating topics in Stewart's book. She also discusses genetic breeding of roses, exemplified by the search by Florigene of Australia for a blue rose. In part two of the book, growing of flowers is discussed in depth—Italian violet farms near San Francisco; California greenhouses in Arcata, California; the technical marvels of the Dutch greenhouses; rose growing near the equator, as exemplified in Quito, Ecuador. In part three, the selling of flowers is discussed. One learns that Miami is a pivotal shipping point for U.S. flowers. She also gives a detailed description of the famed Dutch flower auction at Aalsmeer. Finally, she discusses the present and future of flower marketing in the United States. She describes the small florist's operation, but also the marketing of certified organic flowers through Whole Foods and Trader Joe's, as well as the sale of growers' bunches of flowers at big box sellers such as Costco. I heartily recommend this fascinating book by a true flower lover; her passion for flowers nearly jumps off the page.—Karin Kratz

FIELD GUIDE TO AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES OF THE SAN DIEGO REGION

BY JEFFREY M. LEMM
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS/
CALIFORNIA NATURAL HISTORY GUIDES

\$24.95; 344 pages; paperback

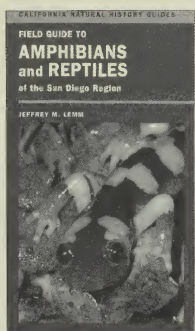
Wow—finally, a book about Old Charley! When I moved to Blossom Valley some years ago, neighbors told me to be wary of Old Charley, a red diamond rattlesnake that got a foot or two larger each time the story was repeated. As I learned, red diamonds were not the only kind of reptile I would encounter. Some times I had no clue about what I

was looking at; any books about reptiles I could lay my hands on invariably covered such a large area (the whole U.S., for example) that they were not much help.

Now at last there is a book about the locals—reptiles and amphibians found in San Diego County and environs. The color plates are excellent. Descriptions are thorough and there are interesting

facts about each species: The index makes finding things easy since it lists common names of plants and animals along with the scientific ones.

But how can all this help gardeners? Well, this gardener likes to know who she might run across (not literally, of course) when planting among the rocks and maybe even, some day, getting to meet Old Charley.—Pat Pawlowski



FIRST-TIME GARDENER

BY KIM WILDE
HARPERCOLLINS UK
\$24.95; 224 pages; hardcover

OK! I want Kim Wilde to be my new best gardener friend. Never mind that she lives in the UK and not Southern California. Never mind that I'm not a first-time gardener. The author is a gardener's friend.

In this book, information, with accompanying color photos, is given in clearly and easily understood steps. The first-time gardener will not be overwhelmed by the amount of information contained in this book. Wilde is right there with you in the garden going along with you step-by-step in orderly fashion.

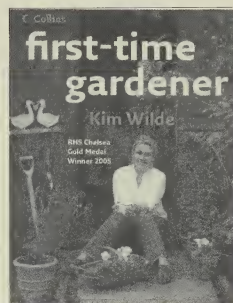
Drawing and developing a plan can be intimidating. Wilde leads

readers through the steps necessary to enable one to imagine what will easily fit into the garden space and the best way to arrange it.

Plants (softscape) can be moved about, but garden structure (hardscape) is a permanent affair. The gardener needs to carefully consider all choices of materials as they need to be practical as well as attractive. Wilde serves as a guide to the do-it-yourself gardener and to the gardener/client who needs to contract with a professional to do the hardscape. The reader may be one or the other of these or perhaps, like many of us, a mixture of both.

"The stars of a great garden are undoubtedly the plants and it is from your plantings that you will draw the most enjoyment." For gardeners, the study of plants is a lifelong learning course. We here in Southern California have some different plant friends than do those living in other regions of our country and the UK. The basics, however, of choosing plants for color and flower, size, shape, and texture are universal.

It's time to garden now. I want to thank Kim Wilde for some quality gardener-to-gardener time.—Suzie Heap





SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library – Founded in 1907

1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622

619-232-5762 Located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park

Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

GENERAL MEETINGS

2007

February 20

April 17

June 19

October 16

Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

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P. O. Box 532

Alpine, CA 91903-0532

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Pres: Tenaya Becker 760-295-8447

Box 9424

San Diego, CA 92169-0424

FRIENDS OF THE HORTEENSE

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Information: 949-499-5518

P. O. Box 742

Laguna Beach CA 92652-0742

Email: marshab@gte.net

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Contact: Luanne Lao 619-232-2721

2125 Park Blvd.

San Diego, CA 92101-4792

PALOMAR DISTRICT

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30861 Saddleback Rd.

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Encinitas, CA 92023-0005

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FOUNDATION

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2125 Park Blvd.

San Diego, CA 92101-4792

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404 Third Ave.

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SAN DIEGO ZOO

Horticulture Dept. 619-231-1515 Ext. 4298

P. O. Box 120551

San Diego, CA 92112-0551

SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES

COUNCIL

Chair: Nancy Abernethy 760-742-1842

P. O. Box 876

Pauma Valley, CA 92061-0876

1st Wed - 10:30 am

Sep., Nov., Jan., Mar., May, North County Fair,

Escondido, Community Room

TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY

Contact: Takashi Ijichi 619-255-2501

1455 49th St.

San Diego, CA 92102-2625

1st Sun - 9:00-11:00 a.m., Casa del Prado

Feb., Mar., Apr., Sep., Oct., Nov.

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12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. W

El Cajon, CA 92019-4317

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CLASSIC GARDENS

P. O. Box 2711 858-459-0316

La Jolla, CA 92038-2711

MASTER LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC.

3089C Clairemont Drive #296 619-296-9687

San Diego, CA 92117-6802

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR, PAUL ECKE JR.

FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

Attn: Lucy Warren 858-792-4273

2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.

Del Mar, CA 92014-2216

Email: flowershow@sdfair.com

SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Vickie V. Driver 858-522-6760

4677 Overland Ave.

San Diego, CA 92123-1233

Email: vdriever@sdewa.org

THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB

Pres.: Judy Dunning/Cindi Lohry 619-579-0222

200 Highline Trail

El Cajon, CA 92021-4082

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1928 Madison Ave. 619-298-7641

San Diego, CA 92116-2722

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ALPINE GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Carlette Anderson 619-445-5716

2451 Night Star Ct.

Alpine, CA 91901-1449

1st Fri - 10:00 am, Homes of Members

BERNARDO GARDENERS

Pres: Veleta Camozzi 858-487-0771

17685 Cumana Terrace

San Diego, CA 92128-1813

3rd Thu - 1:30 pm, Rancho Bernardo Library

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Lynne Batchelor 858-451-6764

16048 Caminito Aire Puro

San Diego, CA 92128-3557

2nd Wed - 9:30 a.m., Bonita Public Library

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Claudette Harshberger 619-435-6042

1217 Alameda Blvd.

Coronado, CA 92118-2710

4th Mon - 9:30 a.m., Winn Room,

Coronado Public Library

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Anne Smith 760-931-9863
 3358 Don Diablo Dr.
 Carlsbad, CA 92010-3914
CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Betsy Cory 619-656-8669
 P.O. Box 57
 Chula Vista, CA 91912-1016
 3rd Thu - 11:45 a.m., Norman Park Senior Center
CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
 Pres: Nancy Griffith 619-435-8079
 P. O. Box 180188
 Coronado, CA 92118-0188
CROWN GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Jeanne Bowers
 P.O. Box 180476
 Coronado, CA 92178-0476
 4th Thu - 9:30 a.m., Coronado Library
DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Marcia Townsend 760-749-4976
 P. O. Box 123
 Valley Center, CA 92082-0123
 2nd Tue - 12:30 p.m., Valley Center Com. Hall
FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Judy Farnan 760-451-0792
 P. O. Box 1702
 Fallbrook, CA 92088-1702
 3rd Wed - 7:00 p.m., FPUF Bldg. on Mission Rd.
 Last Thu - 9:30 a.m., Fallbrook Presbyterian
 Church on Stage Coach
FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB
 Chair: Mrs. Neil Powers 858-829-7944
 16049 Vista de Golf
 San Diego, CA 92091-4340
 2nd Mon - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Ann Massey 858-292-9414
 P. O. Box 2713
 La Jolla, CA 92038-2713
 3rd Tue - 1:30 p.m., L.J. Lutheran Church
LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
 Pres: Vernon Bluhm 760-745-1219
 710 W. 13th Ave. G118
 Escondido, CA 92025
 Email: vbluhm@cox.net
 4th Mon. 2:00 p.m. Rancho Bernardo Library; 2nd floor
LAS JARDINERAS
 Pres: Julie Warren 619-298-7043
 3919 Portola Place
 San Diego, CA 92103-2705
 3rd Mon - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
MIRACOSTA HORT. CLUB OF OCEANSIDE
 Co-Presidents: Felicia Moscinski 760-726-4047
 809 Olive Ave., #40
 Vista, CA 92083-3373
 Don Nelson 760-630-3580
 952 Park Hill Drive
 Escondido, CA 92025-4853
 Email: donnelson12sbglobal.net
 3rd Sat - 12:45 p.m., MiraCosta Community
 College, Student Center Bldg. (upstairs)
 Meetings Sep through Jun ONLY
MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Kathy Jones 619-546-6051
 4019 Goldfinch St., #166

San Diego, CA 92103
 4th Wed - 6:30 p.m., Mission Hills United Church
 of Christ at 4070 Jackdaw St.
POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Nancy Hurlburt 619-223-3315
 P.O. Box 8382
 San Diego, CA 92166-0382
 2nd Wed - 10:00 a.m., Portuguese Hall
 2818 Avenida de Portugal
POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
 President: Gail Marson 858-486-8969
 P. O. Box 27
 Poway, CA 92074-0027
 2nd Wed - 9:00 a.m., Lake Poway Pavilion
RAMONA GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Marci Shirley 760-789-8880
 P.O. Box 1412
 Ramona, CA 92065
 2nd Wed - 12:00 noon Ramona Women's Club
RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Carol Wells 619-749-8325
 1818 Sonetts Dr., El Cajon, CA 92019
 3rd Tuesday each month at 9:30 a.m.
RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Hal Sexton 858-756-1554
 P. O. Box 483
 Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-0483
SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Marj Myers 619-448-3613
 9241 Galston Dr.
 Santee, CA 92071-1510
 4th Tue - 9:30 a.m., Homes of Members
SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
 Pres: Susi Torre-Bueno 760-295-7089
 P. O. Box 231869
 Encinitas, CA 92023-1869
 2nd Mon - 6:30 pm, except June
 Surfside Race Place
 Del Mar Fairgrounds, Jimmy Durante Blvd.
SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Rita Koczela 760-804-7366
 7585 Navigator Cir.
 Carlsbad, CA 92011-5405
 4th Wed - 9:30 a.m., Quail Bot. Gardens
VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA
 Pres: Connie Brown 858-453-5363
 6327 Benhurst Ct.
 San Diego, CA 92122-3021
 4th Thu., 10:00 a.m., Torrey Pines Christian Church
VISTA GARDEN CLUB
 Pres: Karen England 760-214-3685
 P. O. Box 44
 Vista, CA 92085-0044
 1st Fri - 12:00 noon, Vista Senior Center
IKEBANA SCHOOLS:
ICHIYO SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
 Pres: Haruko Crawford 619-660-2046
 10411 San Carlos Dr.
 Spring Valley, CA 91978-1034
IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119
 Pres: Janet Judge 858-759-2477
 P.O. Box 2248
 Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-2248
 4th Wed - 10:00 a.m., Casa del Prado

IKENOBO CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO
 Pres: Mrs. Charles Oehler 858-278-5689
 2822 Walker Dr.
 San Diego, CA 92123-3056
OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
LA JOLLA CHAPTER
 P. O. Box 500765 858-672-7850
 San Diego, CA 92150-0765
 2nd Tues - 10:00 a.m., La Jolla Library
OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
 Pres: Akiko Bourland 858-273-5899
 2936 Havasupai Ave.
 San Diego, CA 92117-1641
SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO BRANCH
 Director: Hiroko Szechinski 858-571-6137
 10830 Montego Dr.
 San Diego, CA 92124-1421
SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
 Master Instructor: Sumiko Lahey 619-429-6198
 2829 Flax Dr.
 San Diego, CA 92154-2160
PLANT SOCIETIES:
AFRICAN VIOLET
CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
 Pres: Patty Regan 760-295-0484
 2000 S. Melrose Dr. #119
 Vista, CA 92081
 4th Mon - 10:30 a.m. - Vista Library,
 700 Eucalyptus Ave.
BEGONIA
ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
 Pres: Doris Smith 619-222-1294
 4505 Long Branch Ave.
 San Diego CA 92107-2333
 2nd Tue - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
MABEL CORWIN BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
 Pres: Dean Turney 760-942-1919
 467 Fulvia
 Encinitas, CA 92024-2146
 2nd Sun - 1:30 p.m., except May & Aug.
 Quail Gardens
MARGARET LEE BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
 Pres: Michael Ludwig 619-262-7535
 6040 Upland St.
 San Diego CA 92114-1933
 Last Sat - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
BONSAI
HON NON BO ASSOCIATION
 Pres: Brenda Storey 858-689-0957
 9976 Dautless St.
 San Diego, CA 92126-5514
 1st Sun. every other month (begin Feb.)
 10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado
SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.
 Information: 619-699-8776
 P. O. Box 40037
 San Diego CA 92164-0037
 2nd Sun. - 10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado, Rm. 101
 Beginning & intermediate classes at 9:00 am
 before meeting

CLUB AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES (continued)

BROMELIAD

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF
BALBOA PARK
Pres: Joann Dossett 619-299-4115
2871 Brant St.
San Diego, CA 92103-6119
2nd Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado
SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Pres: Robert Vitacco 619-469-3539 (weekends only)
www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html
P.O. Box 83996
San Diego, CA 92138-3966
2nd Sat., 10:00 a.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado,
Balboa Park

CACTUS & SUCCULENT

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT
SOCIETY
P.O. Box 840
Escondido, CA 92033
4th Sat - 12:15 p.m., Joslyn Sr. Ctr., Escondido
SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND
SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Pres: Mark Fryer 619-795-1020
P.O. Box 33181
San Diego, CA 92163-3181
2nd Sat - 1:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

CAMELLIA

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
Pres: E. C. (Gene) Snooks 858-454-6659
6114 La Jolla Blvd.
La Jolla, CA 92037-6702
3rd Wed. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado
Meetings Nov. through Apr. ONLY

DAHLIA

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY
Pres: David J. Tooley 858-672-2593
11375 Nawa Way
San Diego, CA 92129-1116
Email: djsj21643@aol.com
4th Tue. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

DAYLILY (HEMEROCALLIS)

SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY
Contact: Betsy Hamblin 858-483-5584
851 Opal St.
San Diego, CA 92109-1780
1st Sat. - 10:00 a.m., Sep. through May
Quail Gardens

EPIPHYLLUM

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY
Pres: Phil Peck 619-491-9495
P.O. Box 126127
San Diego, CA 92112-6127
Website: www.epiphyllum.com
2nd Wed. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

FERN

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY
Pres: Sherry Worthen 858-278-2017
3141 Cabrillo Mesa Dr.
San Diego, CA 92123-2945
3rd Thu. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

FRUIT

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS
Chair: David Silverstein
4722 Coronado Ave.

San Diego, CA 92107-3543
4th Thu. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado
Nov. & Dec. ONLY, 3rd Thu.

GERANIUM

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY
Pres: Jim Budlove 619-287-6299
6404 Zena Dr.
San Diego, CA 92115-7026
2nd Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

HERB

THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB
Copresidents: Judy Dunning and Cindi Lohry
619-579-0222
Meetings on the 1st Wed. of every month at
7:00 p.m., Balboa Park
Casa del Prado, Room 101

IRIS

SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES
IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Leon Vogel 951-677-5587
26440 St. Ives Ct., Murrieta, CA 92563-6087
2nd Sun. - 1:00 p.m.
Call for newsletter and location

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

Pres: Eileen Fiumara 818-986-4188
4512 Sunnyslope Ave.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3119
1st Thu. - 7:30 p.m. - Canoga Park Women's Club
7401 Jordan, Canoga Park

NATIVE PLANTS

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER 916-447-2677
P.O. Box 121390 www.cnpsd.org
San Diego, CA 92112-1390
3rd Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB

Pres: Yolanda Fleet 760-745-1219
3045 Felicita Rd.
Escondido, CA 92029-6725
4th Mon. - 2:00 p.m. - Rancho Bernardo
Library, 2nd floor

ORCHID

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY
A BRANCH OF THE CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY
OF AMERICA, INC.
Pres: Loren Ellsworth 858-748-8355
14730 Dash Way
Poway, CA 92064-2914
3rd Wed. - 7:00 p.m., Carlsbad Women's Club

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

Pres: Genie Hammond 619-426-6831
P.O. Box 161020
San Diego, CA 92176-1020
1st Tue. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

ORGANIC

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Ron Nordfelt 619-475-8086

935 Rawhide Ct.
Bonita, CA 91902-2422
4th Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Bonita Valley Baptist Church at
4701 Sweetwater Rd. Meeting in back. EXCEPT Aug.
& Dec.

PLUMERIA

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY
Pres: Joy Herzog 619-443-4795
P.O. Box 20553
El Cajon, CA 92021-0940
4th Sun. - 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., Feb. through Oct.
Casa del Prado, Room 102
Email: c.herzog@att.net

ROSE

EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Karen Mannino 619-401-9625
11977 Paseo Fuerte
El Cajon, CA 92020-8366
Website: www.eastcountyrosesociety.com
1st Sun - 2:00 p.m., except July & Aug.
Gardens of Members
SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Ruth Tiffany 619-462-5753
6705 Maury Dr.
San Diego, CA 92119-2020
www.sdrosesociety.org
3rd Mon. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado
EXCEPT Jan. & Feb. - 4th Mon.
No meetings July & Aug.

TREES

PEOPLE FOR TREES
Contact: Pat Stevenson 619-222-TREE
P.O. Box 120505 FAX 619-223-TREE
San Diego, CA 92112-0505
Email: adoglover1@juno.com
4th Tue. - 6:30 p.m., 743 Imperial Ave.

WATER GARDEN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER
GARDEN SOCIETY
Pres: Ed Simpson 760-436-3704
1302 Avocado Rd.
Oceanside, CA 92054-5702
3rd Sun - Apr. through Oct.
Website: groups.yahoo.com/group/sdwatergarten
Email: dc@pondplants.com
Call for meeting information.

AFFILIATES:

Send changes to Affiliates Editor, California
Garden, 1650 El Prado #105,
San Diego, CA 92101-1622. Call 619-232-5762
Email: membership@sdfloral.org

Deadline for July/August issue: May 20, 2007

Each affiliate group is entitled to a business-card-sized ad at half price. We can accept your designed ad (tiff or jpeg files preferred) or we can design one for you (using copy and images provided by you). Business-card-sized ads measure 3.5 inches wide by 2.25 inches high.

Anticipation and the Success of a Flower Show

The anxiety and anticipation of producing a major flower show has not lessened over the past 100 years. Our Centennial Flower Show and Tea has produced similar emotions to those recorded over 90 years ago!

April 1916

The Coming Rose Show

In the name of progress, let us be thankful that it is no longer necessary to apologize for holding a Rose Show, as was almost the case when the San Diego Floral Association started out nearly a decade ago to make such an annual feature; but the popularity of such events is still far from the flood mark. It will be of interest to see by the attendance at the coming show to be held April 27 and 28 at the Maryland Hotel, whether the wave of activity in the gardens and their care, that has covered the east as with a sweet garment, has really reached our city.

The manager of the Hotel Maryland, Mr. Omer Lilly, has exhibited an unprecedented sympathy with a mere flower show and expressed it by offers of material assistance that cannot have been imbibed in his former environment. Every flower lover should put forward the greatest possible effort to make this the best ever to show appreciation.

We are going to mess up that man's hotel quite considerably; we shall bother him and all his staff, spill water on his floors, possibly drive tacks surreptitiously, get in the way of his boys and guests and try his gentle soul for three days, but if he can stand the strain and grin, he wins a thousand friends and puts a memory of loveliness in the early record of his hostelry, the sweet savor of which shall cheer him when the tourists cease from troubling and the weary don't seek rest.

This is going to be a free show. Visitors will have a chance to join the order and subscribe to this paper but it won't make any difference if they don't want to, except they will miss a chance of letting their good works smell sweetly in the land that God has given them to cultivate, and the method thereof is monthly set forth in this magazine.

San Diego owes it to its Floral Association to attend this Rose Show. All through last year, time after time, the Floral Association went up to the Exposition and worked like beavers, besides being at considerable expense to make events there. They grinned and submitted to the intricate and bothersome transfer system which was certainly modified as far as possible for their benefit, but they were pretty badly submerged and many a one, both within and without the fold, sighed for a return to something of their own. Here it is and the Exposition will be expected to help the Association as the Association helped it.

We would like to give prizes but we hate to beg them and that is the only way unless the millennium is approaching and volunteer donors

would come forward. This must not be taken to mean that requests for donations in the past have failed because of generous response, for very much the contrary is the fact; but it is pretty hard to get committees to go round begging for anything when the generosity of the community has been had. We have dwelt upon the remarkable proffering of assistance by the Maryland Hotel; perhaps next month we may be able to be amazed at the number and value of prizes freely offered. The Floral Association is waiting to be not simply amazed but astounded.

Ninth Spring Rose Show—Its Lessons

Another rose show has passed into the long line of annual successes scored by the San Diego Floral Association, and was packed with apparently interested humanity from opening to close. Anywhere from 2,500 to 5,000 people came, smiled approval, smelt the flowers, and said, "Oh my" and passed along. Seven of them joined the ranks of the Floral Association. Perhaps hundreds might have done so if specifically asked, but surely everyone knows about the organization and its need for the support of all who feel it should be encouraged and all the members were too busy to do the asking. Now is the time for every member to ask that friend who enjoyed the exhibition to join with us and make possible the next one.

It seems that it should not be necessary to ask any one who really has the future of the city at heart to get into the Floral Association. Its record of ten years' struggle through jeers contemptuous, neglect and indifference to recognition as a factor in real growth should be inducement enough and its roll should number 2,000 at least. It should have a home, a garden featuring California growths and enough cash to pay its secretary car fare and the cost of printing this magazine. All these would follow just 2,000 out of 80,000 saying, "Yes! It's a good work, here is my \$1.50."

Last month the Association was pictured as waiting to be amazed at the prizes voluntarily presented. It sent round a letter to all fractional and complete millionaires saying in effect, "If you would like to give something we will not stand in your way, on the contrary it will be received gratefully." Well, the amazement came along in due time; amazement at the munificent response of the few, and the perfect silence of the many. We would like these sacred few to understand that beneath this mild badinage is an awful soft place in our heart for them.

We believe in the work of the Floral Association; to us it is as serious as that of the builders of concrete blocks and churches perhaps. It deals with things that sprout, grow, wither and die, but it touches the heart of nature. It seeks to put in our too material life a touch of beauty, a sweet savor, a reminder that man is not the only thing that lives, and when we find another similarly minded it is a strong bond of real brotherhood.



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